Willis's Current Notes

1856.

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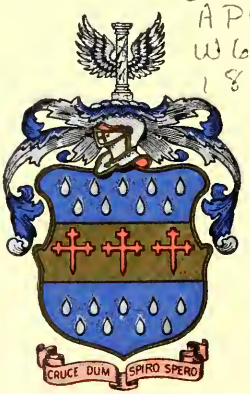

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WILLIS'S

CURRENT NOTES:

A SERIES OF ARTICLES

ON

Antiquities, Biography, Heraldry, History, Languages, Literature, Curious Customs, &c.,

SELECTED FROM

ORIGINAL LETTERS AND DOCUMENTS

ADDRESSED DURING THE YEAR

1856,

TO THE PUBLISHERS.

WILLIS AND SOTHERAN,

No. 136, STRAND, LONDON.

MDCCCLVII.

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Erratum.—P. 99, col. 1, l. 16 from foot, for same read sarue.

WILLIS'S CURRENT NOTES.

No. LXI.] "Takes note of what is done—
By note, to give and to receive."—SHAKESPEARE. [JANUARY, 1856.

HEREFORDSHIRE NEW-YEAR CUSTOMS.

A comparison of the many diversified customs in the English Counties at various periods of the year presents much interest, and as customs, are peculiarly gratifying to many persons who are not strictly observers themselves of these interminable occasions for displaying our native character, arising from traditions of which time is fast obliterating all record. Whilst spending Christmas-tide at Bromyard, a snug little self-satisfied town, about fourteen miles from Hereford, I noted the following curious observances, which possibly are not confined to this one of our western counties.

On New-Year's Eve, as the hour of twelve drew near, within doors a pleasurable excitement became visible in the face of each person, then seated about the Christmas log; and without, the chanting of the last new carol broke upon the stillness of the night in discordant sounds with no very harmonious effect. So soon as the clock had struck twelve, there was a rush out of doors to the nearest spring of water, with this object; Whoever first brought in "the cream of the well," was deemed fortunate, and those who first tasted of it had also the prospective good fortune of luck following at their heels throughout the whole of the ensuing year. Meanwhile in the street, borne upon the night air, was heard the incoherent noise of the ribald laugh and the joyous song, lustily shouted by many sturdy labourers, who, though usually steady, "only this once" in the year, had made a rather long sitting at "the Lion," or "the Plough," and were then wending their homeward course at the friendly intimation of Boniface, who had warned them of the hour when *sober* men should be in bed. With these, happy souls, the custom is called the "burying Old Tom," i.e., the assisting at the departure of the old year, and in jocund exultations welcoming in that of the new.

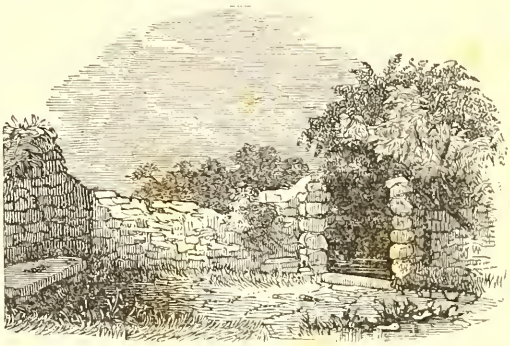
After the noise and uproar of the funeral obsequies of Old Tom have ceased, the street is in its turn the scene of a tumultuous jollity, caused by bands of boys, chanting in the loudest possible note, and with an indisputable contempt for the Queen's English or Murray's Grammar, the following hearty good wishes, to those whose munificence may be excited by the plenitude of their *unbiassed*, yet plaintive benevolence.

I wish you a merry Christmas,
And a happy New Year;
A pocket full of money,
And a cellar full of beer;
And a good fat pig,
To serve you all the year.
Ladies and gentlemen, sat by the fire,
Pity we, poor boys, out in the mire!

Torrington Square, Jan. 12. T. H. PATTISON.

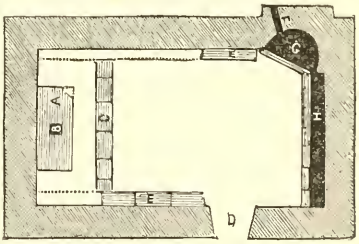
MADRON WELL BAPTISTRY OR CHAPEL.

Madron Well is situated in a moor, about a mile to the north-west of Madron church; and about two hundred yards from the well is the ruined baptistry or chapel, having been partially destroyed in Cromwell's time by Major Ceely, of St. Ives.



The interior as it is now seen, is represented in the above cut; the following is the—

PLAN OF THE CHAPEL.



On the outside of the building, the length is twenty-five feet; the breadth, sixteen feet; the walls are two feet in thickness. The altar stone, marked A, is five feet ten inches in length, two feet seven inches wide, and in height above the level of the floor, two feet ten inches. The cavity or socket, marked B, where a cross, or the image of the patron saint, St. Maternus, may have been placed, is nine inches by eight. C is a row of stones forming a step which divides the chancel from the nave. E E indicate the remains of the stone benches or seats. D, the doorway, facing directly north, is two feet wide at the entrance, gradually extending to two feet eight inches within.

An excavation, G, in the south-west corner, appears to have been used as a font, the water being supplied

from the well above, and for which purpose there is an inlet in the wall at F. The drain marked H served to carry off the waste water.

There are still some remains of the outer wall that enclosed the building when Catholicism was the national religion.

The woodcuts have been kindly forwarded by Mr. J. F. Blight, of Penzance, in whose work on the Crosses and Antiquities of West Cornwall, to be published in the ensuing month, they are part of its illustrations. To the antiquarian readers of Current Notes, it is respectfully commended to their notice.

H. A. C., in Current Notes, 1855, p. 93, states that "many County and Local Historians allude to the poem written by Bishop Hall, entitled the Mysterie of Godlinesse, describing the miraculous cure of the poor cripple through the agency of the waters of Madron Well." Unless H. A. C. has *misquoted* the County and Local Historians, he has been greatly *misled* by them, for,—

Firstly, Bishop Hall did not write any poem on the Great Mysterie of Godlinesse; that tract is in prose.

Secondly, Bishop Hall did not describe the miraculous cure of the poor cripple in his tract on 'the Great Mystery of Godlinesse,' nor did he therein make any allusion to it. I gave the passage in Current Notes, p. 93, from the treatise of the good Bishop, in which the description of the Madron cripple does occur, from 'the Invisible World, edit. Lond. 1808,' 8vo., Book I., sect. viii. p. 465; but this tract is also in prose. I observe that Lysons, Cornwall, p. cci., makes this mistake of citing 'the Mystery of Godliness' for 'the Invisible World;' he, however, does not cite it as a poem, but a publication. Probably he also, like H. A. C., copied from preceding writers, instead of going to the original, and thus errors become perpetuated.

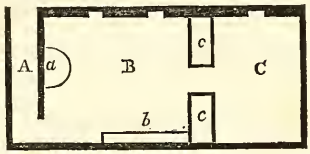
May I ask H. A. C., whether, from his *own observation*, he has ascertained that the door of the Chapel, near Cape Cornwall, in St. Just parish, 'faces the north,' as that in Madron does? I believe there are now no remains of that building in Park-an-Chapel enclosure. Borlase, in some manuscript notes, speaks of it, in his time; and the Rev. J. Buller says the remains were, in 1842, still to be seen. Account of St. Just, p. 45. I did not see them while I was incumbent of that parish, from 1846 to 1850.

Brampford Speke, Dec. 31. G. C. Gorham.

Mr. John Martin, F.L.S., died at Froxfield, Bedfordshire, Dec. 30, in his sixty-fifth year. He was formerly of the firm of Rodwell and Martin, booksellers, 46, New Bond Street, and the author or compiler of a "Bibliographical Catalogue of Privately Printed Books, 1834," pp. 564, 8vo. On the decease of Mr. Wiffen, the librarian at Woburn Abbey, the late Duke of Bedford thought so favourably of this volume, that he unsolicited appointed Mr. Martin, as his successor.—The Bibliographical Catalogue was recently reprinted.

BUT AND BEN DEFINED.

The Cornish application of "but and ben" may be what Mr. Hawker of Morwenstow, Current Notes, 1855, p. 93, says it is; but the phrase is by no means confined to that district, nor does it bear in other parts of Great Britain the signification of "butlery and hall." All over Saxon Scotland it is still in colloquial use, every cottage having its 'but and ben,' as formerly every farm house had. The ground floor of a Scottish hynd's house may be thus represented—



The passage (A) from the outer to the inner door, is called the but-a-house, and in some cases is still partly occupied by the cow. Occasionally in cold weather I have seen a pig kept in it. The main apartment (B) is the only one having a fireplace (*a*); it serves the inmates

For kitchen, for parlour and hall;

and has a dresser (Fr. *dressoir*), or bink (old German, *binke*), opposite to the window, stored with crockery of all sorts. Two beds, large wooden boxes, with sliding panels in front, are placed (*c c*) across the cottage, nearly in the centre of its length, and a door or curtain occupies the space between them, to screen the entrance to the ben-a-house (C), which is used as a miscellaneous store-room, and generally containing a bed in which the eldest son or daughter, or the bondager or hired servant sleeps. So 'gang ben the house,' is to enter this inner apartment; and to 'gang but the house,' is to move towards the door. 'Ben i' the room,' and 'but i' the kitchen,' are phrases quite common among farm servants.

But and ben are the Dutch *buiten* and *binnen;* and *buiten* of *binnen gaan*, is to go out and in, with the affix *by*. 'In by' and 'out by' are phrases heard everywhere. The ben-a-house is the Latin *penus* or *penetral;* the Hebrew penimah (פְּנִימָה), the *benmost*, innermost, or most retired, or private part of the house, peculiarly consecrated to the Penates or household gods.

South Shields. William Brockie.

GRAVE OF SIR ROBERT STRANGE.

In the recently published Memoirs of Sir Robert Strange, Knight, Engraver; and of his brother-in-law Andrew Lumisden, Private Secretary to the Stuart Princes, by James Dennistoun, of Dennistoun; are embodied much that will interest the reader, but there is occasionally a deficiency of minutiæ, which the author might easily have avoided, and the following Notes are submitted in the hope of partially supplying that defect.

Robert Strange was born at Pomona, in the Orkneys, July 14, 1721. He served as an apprentice to Cooper

the engraver, from 1735 to 1741; and during this time, among other occupations, was successful in engraving anatomical plates. At the memorable conflict at Culloden, he served the Pretender as one of his Life-guards, and after the fight was pursued, but contrived to escape to Paris, where he became the assistant of Le Bas, the engraver. He continued abroad unattainted.

In October, 1750, he returned to London, and in 1751, commenced business as an engraver. In June, 1752, Dr. William Hunter, then living in the Little Piazza, Covent Garden, between King Street and James Street; announced his Proposals for printing by Subscription, the Anatomy of the Pregnant Uterus, etc. illustrated by ten copper-plates, represented as large as life. The plates were to be engraved by Mr. Strange; the first was already finished, and was to be seen at "the engraver's, at his lodgings, at Mr. Tisoe's, pewterer, Parliament Street, Westminster." In these lodgings he appears to have resided from October, 1750, till March, 1754, when, according to the parochial rate-books, he commenced the occupation of the house, now no. 26, in Henrietta Street, Covent Garden. Here, in the general absence of numbers to the houses, he appears to have adopted the sign of "the Golden Head;" Hogarth had set up the same distinction over the door of his house in Leicester Square; now the northern half of the Sabloniere Hotel.

The house in Henrietta Street, for which he was rated at forty pounds annual rent, was then, in all probability, a private house, and not as now a shop. His family were resident there at Christmas, 1762, and probably till March, 1763, when the celebrated demirep Nancy Dawson, would seem by the rate-books, to have commenced the occupancy. Her name appears in the rate-books, in June, in that year.

Strange's next residence was in Castle Street, Leicester Square; after the numbering of the houses in 1764, it was number 14, but has been rebuilt, the site being that of the well-known Ham and Beef-house, the corner of St. Martin's Court; and hence, in the Gazetteer, May 18, 1765, was announced the following notice.

Mr. Strange, being to set out for Paris, in order to procure the necessary assistance towards executing the inferior part of his works, takes this opportunity to acquaint the public, that the exhibition of his drawings will end on the 25th instant, when the subscription for his late Proposals will likewise be closed. His works will be sold, as usual, at his house, in Castle-street, Leicester-fields; where, towards the beginning of winter, will be published two prints; one, a sleeping Cupid, of late in the Aldrovandi Palace at Bologna, and now in the collection of Sir Lawrence Dundas, Bart.; the other, a Madonna with the Child, in the collection of Mr. Strange: both from the paintings of Guido.

From 1775 to 1780, Strange resided in Paris; in the latter year, he and his family tenanted the house, no. 52, Great Queen Street, Lincoln's Inn Fields. It was then doubtless, a private house, but is now a furniture-dealer or broker's shop. On January 5, 1787, in compliment for having, in the previous year, engraved West's picture of the Apotheosis of the King's children, to the great satisfaction of the Royal Family, he received the honour of knighthood. Sir Robert Strange died in Great Queen Street, at one o'clock, p.m. on Thursday, July 5, 1792, within a few days of the seventy-first year of his age.

How dearly his memory was cherished by his widow, as "the best of husbands, fathers, and men," appears by her letters; that, describing his death, is singularly natural and affectionate—"Two days after he was put in a lead coffin: but I would not let it be closed for eight days. Often, often did I visit his dear cold face, kiss'd it, and knelt by him." Dennistoun, in his Memoirs, vol. ii. p. 250, states—"On the testimony of his daughter, I am enabled to say that Sir Robert was buried in a family-tomb, at the cemetery of St. Paul's, Covent Garden, with a simple Tablet bearing his name; but I find no trace of this fact, either in the grave-yard, or the parish-register."

From the assertion here made, it is evident the writer was very deficient in his mode of enquiry; as the burial register unequivocally records his interment—

July 12, 1792, Sir Robert Strange, from St. Giles' in the Fields,—

supplying the additional interesting fact, that Lady Strange did not allow the coffin to close upon "her honoured lord," till the morning of the burial: the 12th would be the last of the "eight days" alluded to in her letters. Dennistoun found no memorial in the grave-yard —Did he look for it? Long known to the parishioners, was the inscribed ledger-stone to Sir Robert Strange's memory, in the watch-house plat, laid immediately in front of the parlour-window, at the back of the house, No. 35, in Henrietta Street. It is true, the weather, since 1792, had rendered it almost illegible, and on the recent arrangement of the grave-stones, it was found broken in several pieces, but enough remained to identify it; the fragments of the stone are now in the vault below the church; and the immediate spot is now covered by the head-stone of a family named Jones, recording their interments there, or near by, in 1837 and 1838.

During the last month, December, 1855, there has been placed a tablet of stone, about two feet, six inches, by two feet, four inches; inscribed—

HERE LIES
SIR ROBERT STRANGE,
THE EMINENT ENGRAVER.
BORN JULY 14TH, 1721.
DIED JULY 5TH, 1792.

This, however, has been placed at the foot, and not over the grave of the most eminent engraver that has existed; at the private cost of Mr. Henry Graves, printseller, in Pall Mall. It is, however, so greatly inferior to the transcendant merits of the deceased, that the same party, has, we are assured, concerted some measures for the raising by subscription among the venerators of the art by which he lived, a more fitting Testimonial, one that shall proffer a more lasting and more honourable memento over the ashes of the dead.

The family of Sir Robert Strange is extinct.

BERNARDO TASSO'S L'AMADIGI.

After perusing the interesting bibliographical article concerning the early editions of Amadis de Gaula, in your last Current Notes, pp. 95-96, it would possibly be of some interest to notice that so soon as the said Spanish romance was published, the Noveno Libro included, Bernardo Tasso, father of Torquato Tasso, the author of La Jerusalemme Liberata, took it into his hands, and wrote an Italian poem in ottava rima, entitled, L'Amadigi. Tiraboschi,* in reference to the work, says—

L'Amadigi è tratto da un Romanzo Spagnuolo, e il Tasso s' accinse a scriverlo circa l'anno 1545, mentre vivea tranquillamente in Sorrento. Egli il condusse a fine verso l'anno 1559; e l'Accademia Veneziana gliel chiese, per darlo alla luce, pensando a ragione, che grande onore ne dovesse ad essa venire. Ma il Tasso volle farne l'edizione a sue spese, ed ella uscì alla luce nel 1560.

The edition in my possession is that printed in Vinegia (Venice) by Giolito de Ferrari, 1560; a small quarto volume in fine italic character, with the portrait of the poet, and a small vignette at the beginning and end of each canto, which are in number one hundred.

Bristol, Jan. 7. F. S. DONATO.

* Storia della Letteratura Italiana, Tomo VII., p. 1188.

INEDITED LETTER OF SIR WALTER SCOTT.

The following letter, by "the author of Waverley," was addressed, in 1818, to James Ellis, Esq., Otterburn, near Newcastle upon Tyne; and like most which emanated from that celebrated writer, will be found to be replete with anecdotal and historical interest.

Scott's early association with James Allan, the Northumbrian piper, is humourously depicted, but the fate of this "desperate reprobate," has yet to be told—in 1803, he was capitally convicted at the Durham assizes for horse-stealing; he, however, appears to have ended the motley tenor of his days within the walls of Durham gaol: he died there, Nov. 13, 1810, in his seventy-seventh year.

My dear Sir,—I am greatly interested in your index for Froissart, which must be very valuable to all antiquaries. If you will trust me with it about the 12th of May, enclosed under cover to William Kerr, Esq., Post Office, Edinburgh, I will receive it safe and void of expense, and cause print a few copies of it, which I can get done for a trifle, or rather for nothing, excepting having a very few for sale, and get you as many as you wish to make presents of. There is a separate index of this kind to Warton's History of Poetry, without which that confused mass of curious matter could scarce be turned useful, since one might as well look for a needle in a bottle of hay, as for any particular passage. I mention the 12th of May, because I return then to the Court.

I should be glad to have a copy of the Alnwick work upon Allan, whom I have often seen, and heard, particularly at the Kelso races. He was an admirable piper, yet a desperate reprobate. The last time I saw him he was in absolute beggary, and had behaved himself so ill at my uncle's house, that the old gentleman himself a most admirable piper, would not on any account give him quarters, though I interceded earnestly for him, "the knave," as Davie tells Justice Shallow, "being my very good friend." He was then quite like a pauper, with his wife, and an ass in the true gipsy fashion. When I first saw him at Kelso races, he wore the Northumberland livery, a blue coat, with a silver crescent on his arm.

I knew something of Allan's grandfather, or, perhaps, great-grandfather. They were Yetholmers and retainers at one time of the Marquises of Lothian. In the reign of Charles the Second, or James the Second, there was living near to Fairnihirst, the castle of the Marquis of Lothian, three miles above Jedburgh, a certain bold yeoman called Ringan Oliver, one of the strongest men in our country. This man was much irritated by the Marquis, repeatedly hunting over his fields when the corn was growing. And, at length, to mark his resentment of the injury, he shot one of the dogs. The Marquis, in revenge, came to his house at Smailcleugh, with a party, and among the rest Allan, all of them *boys of the belt*, who were to do their laird's bidding, right or wrong. Ringan had secured his doors and windows with withies fastened across them, and fired out on the assailants, while a maidservant, the only other person within the house, loaded his guns, of which he had two or three. He made good his defence, till a shot killed the poor maid, on which Ringan hewed down the withies, and rushed desperately out on his assailants with an axe in one hand, and his broad sword in the other. His foot, however, being entangled in the withies, he stumbled; and ere he could recover himself, Allan the tinker struck him down with a mell or hammer: Ringan was made prisoner, and sent to Edinburgh, where he died. But his son was upside with Allan, to whom he gave a most dreadful beating at the pass above Inchbinny near Jedburgh. I heard these particulars from James Vietch, a very remarkable man, a self-taught philosopher, astronomer, and mathematician, residing at Inchbinny, and certainly one of the most extraordinary persons I ever knew. He is a connection of Ringan Oliver, and is in possession of his sword, a very fine weapon. James Vietch is one of the very best makers of Telescopes, and all optical and philosophical instruments now living, but prefers working at his own business as a ploughwright, excepting at vacant hours. If you cross the borders, you must see him as one of our curiosities, and the quiet simple unpretending manners of a man who has, by dint of private and unaided study made himself intimate with the abstruse sciences of astronomy and mathematics, are as edifying as the observation of his genius is interesting.

The lines on the North Tyne are highly creditable, and record in easy verse much that one is willing to carry in memory. I hope Mr. Shepherd will continue his lines, and will introduce the other rivers. Drayton's Poly Olbion has always had peculiar charms for me, though many persons tire of it, and, for the same reason

I like your Reedwater minstrel. Necessarily prevented from being prolix by the extent of his subject, a poet labouring on such a theme often throws out little brief sketches of landscape painting which, perhaps, like many other sketches, would have been spoiled by finishing.

As for Golden Thomas, of whom Mr. Hedley tells some admirable stories, we will let that fly stick to the wall,* and not disturb the eyes of the living by raking up the ashes of the dead: but after all, if "neat conveyance" were an unallowable crime, I know few border families, but what have blots on their 'scutcheons. I understand Golden Thomas's estate went to collaterals.

I have not printed the appendix yet, but certainly shall do so, for *private dispersion* only.

Mrs. Scott joins me in kind remembrances to Mrs. Ellis, and I am always very much your obliged humble servant,

Abbotsford, 25 April. WALTER SCOTT.

I go to Edinburgh on the 12th of May.

* The saying appears to have been a passing phrase of Scott's Rigdumfunnidos, the memorably jocund John Ballantyne; and was current with a certain meaning among those of his confraternity. Lockhart, in his Memoirs of Scott, edit. 1837, vol. iv. p. 170, relates the particulars of his first meeting with Constable, the bookseller, at one of Scott's Trinity dinners, in the summer of 1818. "Being struck with his appearance, I asked Scott who he was? and he told me, expressing some surprise, that any body should have lived a winter or two in Edinburgh, without knowing, by sight, at least, a citizen, whose name was so familiar to the world. I happened to say, that I had not been prepared to find the great bookseller, a man of such gentlemanlike and even distinguished bearing. Scott smiled, and answered—'Ay, Constable is indeed a grand looking chield. He puts me in mind of Fielding's apology for Lady Booby: to wit, that Joseph Andrews had an air, which, to those who had not seen many noblemen, would give an idea of nobility.' I had not, in those days, been much initiated in the private jokes of what is called, by way of excellence, *the trade*, and was puzzled when Scott in the course of the dinner, said to Constable—'Will your Czarish Majesty do me the honour to take a glass of Champagne?' I asked the master of the feast for an explanation. 'Oh!' said he, 'are you so green as not to know that Constable long since dubbed himself *the Czar of Muscovy;* John Murray, *the Emperor of the West;* and Longman and his string of partners, *the Divan?*' 'And what title,' I asked, 'has Mr. John Ballantyne himself found in this new *almanac imperial?*' 'Let that flee stick to the wa',' quoth Johnny; 'when I set up for a bookseller, *the Crafty* [Constable's cognomination] christened me *the Dey of Alljeers*—but he now considers me as next thing to dethroned.' He added, 'His Majesty, the Autocrat, is too fond of these nicknames. One day, a partner of the house of Longman was dining with him in the country, to settle an important piece of business, about which there occurred a good deal of difficulty. The Londoner, by way of a parenthesis, said—'What fine swans you have in your pond there.' 'Swans!' rejoined Constable, 'they are only geese, man. There are just five of them, if you please to observe, and their names are Longman, Hurst, Rees, Orme, and Brown.' This skit cost *The Crafty* a good bargain."

HATS.—When did the practice of wearing Felt Hats obtain an introduction in England?

Newbury, January 14. T. S.

Herbert, in his History of the Livery Companies of London, vol. II. p. 533, notices as extant among the City archives, Lib. Fr. 147—Les Ordinaunces des Hatters, temp. Edw. III.; but these were importations of hats, of which the quality or substance is not defined. Hats made of felt are said to have been first invented by a Swiss, at Paris, in 1404. In England all grades of society wore caps, according to statute; thus, later, Shakespeare makes Buckingham, while relating to Gloster his non-success with the Mayor and Citizens of London, allude to the futile trick for a vote in his favour—

> Some fellows of mine own
> At lower end o' the hall, hurl'd up their caps.
>
> Richard III., Act iii. sc. 7.

Herbert also refers to Ordinances of the Hatter Merchants, 1487-8, 3 Hen. VII., but these were probably importations by the Merchant Haberdashers, who were as a company first incorporated in 1447. Felt Hats are stated to have been first made in London by Spaniards, in the reign of King Henry the Eighth. The hats worn by the Queen's bouffettiers, or Yeomen of the Guard, first instituted by King Henry VII., though not "moulded on a porringer, a velvet dish," are still covered with velvet, as was the custom in the olden time.

SCEPPE.—Bp. Fleetwood, under the year 1237, referring to the Antiq. Peterborough, p. 304, observes, 'Here I meet with the word Sceppe, which the glossaries forget, but it signifies a bushel.' Chronicon Preciosum, 1707, 8vo. p. 77. A contemporary manuscript note adds, the word is still used in Norfolk for a basket of wicker, that does, or should contain a bushel.

Skep, in the north of England, also signifies a hive for bees.

EARLY MERCHANTS MARKS.

In Current Notes, Dec. 1855, p. 97, are some interesting examples of these curious devices, copied from monumental brasses, and the enclosed rubbing from a brass in the chancel floor of Chacombe Church, in Northamptonshire, presenting the monogram of Michel Fox, taken by me July 19, 1854, may possibly be worth adding to them. The brass has a representation of the Holy Trinity, with—in old English—the following inscription:—

In the name of the Lorde I desyer you of yor Charyte [the word pray is omitted] for the Soule of Myghell Fox, Cytyzen and Groc^r of London, and Patron of this Churche, and for ye Soules of Mari and Clemens hys wyffes. Rychard Antony and Johā hys Sonnys. Anne Alys Jane and Alys hys Dowghters. wyche Myghell Decessyd the [blank] daye of [blank] in the yere of owre Lorde God a. MCCCCC. [blank].

On whose Sowles and all Crysten soules Jhū haue mēy.

The monogram is on the lower dexter corner of the slab; and in Hudson's Brasses of Northamptonshire, the brass, with the arms on the other corners, will be found described and engraved.

Deddington. C. FAULKNER.

I enclose a drawing of the mark of the Merchants of the Staple at Calais, which appears in various parts of Hitchin Church, Herts.

The merchants are known to have had a Hall at Hitchin, of which there are still some remains in a house in the town, and probably the church was built, or beautified, by some of them.

January 14. C. B. P.

Clutterbuck, in his History of Hertfordshire, vol. III., p. 12, states that the Town of Hitchin has been famous in early times for the manufacture of wool, when many merchants of the Staple of Calais resided here, as appears by the inscriptions on several brasses in the church.

Again, at p. 39, he observes, On the roof of the chapel, north of the chancel in Hitchin Church, are carved several of the marks formerly in use by merchants to distinguish their goods from those of other merchants trading to the same place, and it is probable that they may represent some of those borne by merchants of the Staple of Calais, of whom many are buried in this chapel.

Chauncy mentions an inscription in the church in his time—Hic jacent . . . . quondam Mercatoris Stapule Uille Calisie, qui obiit XIX° die mens' Aprilis a° D'ni M°CCCCLIJ°. Et p' a'i'a Alicie ux. ej. qe obiit . . . die . . . . . a° D'ni M°CCCCLX°. Clutterbuck, p. 47, copies this from Chauncy as formerly there, but now gone; yet previously, at p. 38, he describes this brass as being still in the chancel, on the floor; the arms gone, but the inscription remaining, under the effigies of a man and woman, four sons and six daughters.

On the floor of the chapel north of the chancel, Clutterbuck, p. 40, quotes the inscription on a brass—

Hic jacet corpora Nicholai Mattok M'catoris Stapule Uille Calesie ac' Civis et Piscenarii Civitat. London. ac bone et laudabilis Generose Elizabeth, uxoris sue qui quidem Nich'us obiit . . . die mens' . . . a° D'ni M°CCCC. . . . Et dicta Elizabeth obiit vicesimo sexto die mensis Septe'bris a° D'ni M°CCCCLXXXV°.

A descendant of this Nicholas; John Mattocke, of Coventry, Esq., by deed dated July 25, 1639, settled nine acres of land in Hitchin for the "maintenance of an able and learned Scole Master, that therewith, and with other revenues, he may teach and instruct and trayne up the children of the inhabitants of Hitchin, in good litterature and vertuous educacion, for the avoideing of idlenes, the mother of all vice and wickedness.

The Freeschool, a house at the west end of Tyler's-street, in Hitchin, that had immemorially been used as a school-house, was, in 1640, begun to be rebuilt by voluntary contributions, and in 1678 was enlarged and completed by Ralph Skynner, Gentleman, who died in June, 1697.

BOTTLE CONJUROR.—Has it transpired who was the perpetrator of the celebrated hoax in reference to the performance of the Bottle Conjuror, at the Haymarket Theatre, in 1749?

Wisbeach, Jan. 4. P. E. H.

This has long been a mooted point; but in "the Life and uncommon Adventures of Capt. Dudley Bradstreet, printed at Dublin, 1755," 8vo., are some particulars which may be deemed conclusive. The writer appears to have been engaged in a variety of adventures and intrigues; he asserts that as a spy for the government, in 1745, he joined as a volunteer the rebel army, and when at Derby, by his counsels induced the leaders to abandon the design of advancing on the metropolis, and return to Scotland. He also, according to his own account, contrived 'the famous Hoax of the Bottle Conjuror,' and to this volume is appended the play of the Bottle Conjuror, commemorative of that event. The volume, however, is so rare that it has escaped the notice of all the editors of the Biographia Dramatica.

AMERICA, A CENTURY SINCE!

In 1755, the following statistical account of English subjects in the Colonies of North America was taken from Militia Rolls, Poll Taxes, Bills of Mortality, Governors' Returns, and other authentic sources. These numbers were exclusive of the military in the pay of the Crown, and the negroes:—

Halifax and Lunenburg, in Nova Scotia	5,000
New Hampshire	30,000
Massachusets Bay	220,000
Rhode Island and Providence	35,000
Connecticut	100,000
New York	100,000
The Jerseys	60,000
Pennsylvania	250,000
Maryland	85,000
Virginia	85,000
North Carolina	45,000
South Carolina	30,000
Georgia	6,000
Total	1,051,000

The French inhabitants in North America, exclusive of the military and the negroes, were—

Canada	45,000
Louisiana	7,000

Forming a total of 52,000. The English on that continent being more than twenty to one of the French.

A century has elapsed, and now, thou land whose flag is bedecked by a Constellation of many stars, whose colours display the blue white and red of old England; what is the number of thy people—almost innumerable!

Warren's Ten Thousand a Year has recently been published in the Russian language at St. Petersburg; and is now, with the Diary of a Physician, being translated into the Danish, by Hans Christian Andersen.

Adam Micziewicz, the Polish poet, died of cholera, at Constantinople, Nov. 26th last. The coffin containing his body was brought to France by the Euphrate, which arrived at Marseilles on the 7th instant.

THE LEGEND OF MORWENSTOW.

In the ninth age, there dwelt in Wales, a Celtic king, Breachan by name: it was from him that the words Brecon and Brecknock received origin; and Queen Gladwise was his wife. They had, as it is recorded by Leland the scribe, four-and-twenty children: either these were their own daughters and sons, or, according to a usage of those days, they were the offspring of the nobles of that land, placed for loyal and learned nurture in the palace of the king, and so called children of his house! Of these, Morwenna was one. She grew up wise, learned, and holy above her mates; and it was evermore the strong desire of her youth, to bring the barbarous and pagan people among whom she dwelt, to the Christian font.

Now, so it was, that when as Morwenna had grown up to a saintly womanhood, there was a king of Saxon England, Ethelwolf by name. He also had many children, and while he gave to the famous St. Swithin the guidance of his sons, he besought King Breachan to allow the maiden Morwenna to become the teacher of the Princess Edith, and the other daughters of his house. She came, and she so gladdened the king by her grace and goodness, that at last he gave her whatsoever she sought.

Now the piece of ground, or the God's acre, which in those days was wont to be set apart and hallowed for the site of a future church, was called the station,* or in native speech, the Stowe of the martyr or saint, who gave name to the altar stone. So on a certain day, thus said Morwenna to the king, "A boon! O king! a boon!" "Be it so, my daughter! so it shall be!" Then made answer Morwenna, "There is a tall and stately headland in far Cornwall, and it looks along the Severn sea. They call it in that region Hennacliff, that is to say, the Raven's Crag. Often, in wild Wales, have I watched across the waves, until the westering sun fell red upon that Cornish rock, and I have said in my vows, Would to God that a font might be hewn, and an altar built among the stones, by yonder barbarous hill! Give me then, I beseech thee, my Lord, a station for a priest, in that scene of my prayer, that so the saying of the Seer may come to pass,† 'In the place of dragons, where each lay, there shall be grass with reeds and rushes!'" Her voice was heard! Her entreaty was fulfilled, and so it is, that notwithstanding the lapse of ten centuries of English time, at this very day, the bourne of many a pilgrim to the west, is the station of Morwenna, or in simple and Saxon phrase, Morwenstow.

Morwenstow. R. S. H.

* Station, or the title, from Jacob's Pillar, literally, the stronghold or fort of the warrior in the land of the foe; the garrison of God's soldier in the battle field, the region of Adam. † Isaiah, chapter xxxv. verse 7.

ANOTHER CHRIST CROSS RHYME.

The following verses, from a hitherto unpublished manuscript, met my eye the very day on which I saw those of the Rev. R. S. Hawker, in Current Notes, p. 86; and bear so striking a resemblance to *his*, that I strongly suspect the two Canticles are derived from a common source, and yet the *variæ lectiones* of that which I now copy are by no means unimportant, and have doubtless been adopted from a still more ancient version than the mediæval model on which his very elegant and picturesque rhymes have been constructed.

TIMOTHEUS.

A CHILD'S PETITION.

Christ His Cross shall be my speed!
Teach me, dear Mamma, to read;
That I may in Scripture see
What His love hath done for me.

Let me learn that I may know,
Why he came to dwell below;
Why above so bright He stands,
Wounded in side, feet, and hands.

Teach me letters, A, B, C;
Till that I shall able be,
Signs to know and words to frame,
And to spell sweet Jesu's name.

Then, dear Teacher, will I look
In that precious Holy Book,
Which doth Wisdom's Treasures hold,
"More to be desired than Gold."

Teach me, dear Mamma, to pray,
Bible verses day by day;
So when I to GOD shall plead,
Christ His Cross shall be my speed.

How must a neglected man of genius conscious of his own powers, pity those who cannot appreciate him, and who bestow what is due on mere pretenders.

Margaret, Countess of Blessington.

JOSEPH HAYDN, the author of the Dictionary of Dates, Book of Dignities, and compiler of several other works of general utility, having recently become paralyzed, the distressed position of himself and family was by the friendly operations of the press, fairly made publicly known. Lord Palmerston, greatly to his honour, transmitted 100*l.* Her Majesty, in consideration of Haydn's literary services, the extent of which few appreciate, or know the anxiety, labour, vexation, or destructive quality, save those who are so employed, conferred a pension of 25*l.* Mr. D'Israeli and others, more fully estimating the requirements of Haydn's helpless need and situation, contributed a sufficiency to place Mrs. Haydn and her family in a stationery business, 13, Crawley Street, Oakley Square. Haydn has not long survived, to be much indebted to the Government's munificent aid, amounting to 1*s.* 4½*d.* per diem, evincing a nation's remunerative gratitude to a soul-broken, distinguished literary struggler for bread. He expired on the evening of the 17th instant.

PAPAL DESTRUCTION OF CLASSICAL MANUSCRIPTS.

Pope Gregory VII. is accused by Machiavel and by Cardan of destroying a manuscript of Varro, then extant in the library of the Vatican. The reason given for this illiberal conduct is as strange as the deed itself. The Pope, they say, having discovered that St. Augustine had made a very free use of the inedited part of that learned Roman's work, chose rather to burn the original than that his favourite polemic should be convicted of plagiarism. Several other classical manuscripts, having been confounded with that of Varro, are supposed to have perished by the same barbarous hand.

Gregory, notwithstanding the conceited sanctity of his last words—"I have loved righteousness, and I have hated iniquity, therefore I die in exile," had been the most ambitious and imperious of prelates. He wrote to Henry the Fourth of Germany, "I wish I may perish if I do not deprive you of life and empire!" The people of Sardinia having hesitated as to paying the exactions of the Holy See, this meek servant of the servants of God threatened their extermination in these words, "I will stir up against you the Normans and the Lombards who shall waste your island with fire and sword." On another occasion, this same Pontiff expressed to his legate in Spain similar sentiments, "I had rather that the whole country were overrun by the Saracens, than possessed by wretched Christians who refuse homage to the Holy Church." He had proposed to unite all Christendom against the Saracens, but died at Salerno in 1087, after having kindled a lasting flame throughout Europe.

WAYSIDE CROSSES.

During a recent ramble in France, I observed frequently small crosses of wood, roughly fashioned, placed on the mound, at the foot of the wayside crosses. These, I concluded, were memorials or offerings deposited there by the worshippers from the adjacent villages, or, mayhap, by the passer by; if so, it appeared to me as being an interesting and peculiar custom among the many errors and superstitions of the Romish Church.

I should be glad to know if I am correct in my conjecture; and if not, to be set right.

Torrington Square, Jan. 5. R. P.

RUSSIA SUBSIDIZED BY ENGLAND.

Elizabeth Empress of Russia, by a Treaty in 1755, with King George II., was to receive, for ten years, a subsidy of 60,000*l.*, during which time the Empress was to maintain, ready for the service of Great Britain, 73,450 men; it was further provided, that should they be actually employed in the field, the subsidy was to be augmented to 500,000*l.*, per annum, but the troops were to be paid by Russia. What will the year 1955 produce?

E. PHILPOT, Lyme Regis, is respectfully referred to Current Notes, 1853, p. 90.

SHAKESPEARE'S ARCHDEACON OF BANGOR.

A clever genealogist has lately been examining into my pedigree, which is one of the oldest of the Welsh descents, and collating it with others; and, amongst the rest, with that in Lewys Dwnn's Heraldic Visitation of Wales, in the time of Queen Elizabeth, and printed by that distinguished antiquary, Sir Samuel Rush Meyrick. He who is curious in such matters will find it in vol. II. page 290 (North Wales), and at the bottom of the left hand page, thus headed—*Yr ach yma oedd yr gyntaf yn yr hên llyfr*, i.e., This Pedigree was the first in the old Book. This pedigree, though incomplete, is one of the fullest and longest in the book. The lineal descent from Jestyn ap Gwrgant, King of Glamorgan, whose arms I bear; down to Davidd Vangor, i.e. David of Bangor, is clearly shewn, and is corroborated by old Welsh Manuscripts and other authorities. This David of Bangor, the Dean, is named by Browne Willis, David Daron; and, it is said, that in his house at Bangor, that scheme of resistance was concerted, which caused so much disquietude to King Henry the Fourth. It is also said, that my ancestor, David Daron, whose eldest son is styled Davidd Vilwr, i.e. David the soldier (he married Jane, daughter and heiress of Black David, the son of David Wynne, the son of Red Evan of Powys), was outlawed in 1406, for his complicity with Owain Glyndwr. He is, beyond all doubt, "the Archdeacon" of Shakespeare, in whose house Hotspur, Worcester, Mortimer, and Glendower meet. See First Part of King Henry the Fourth, Act III., sc. 1.

Shakespeare, it would seem, had erroneously styled him Archdeacon, or, he might have been Archdeacon, as well as Dean. If any of your antiquarian friends can throw light upon this matter, and upon the conduct and history of David Daron, the Dean; as well as upon the manner and term of his outlawry, they will confer a very great favour upon me. I am not a notoriety-monger, and, at the same time, I have no wish for concealment. You are at liberty to make known to any gentleman desiring information, my name, and condition, or to send him a copy of my arms, etc.

RICHARD AP DAVIDD DARON.

North Wales, Jan. 19.

Frederick the Great, while reviewing some troops, observed a soldier with the scar of a deep cut across the cheek. The king asked him, "At what ale-house did you get that scratch?" "At Cöslin, please your Majesty, where your Majesty paid the reckoning," was the prompt reply. How many are now in the same condition, but who has to pay the reckoning has yet to be seen?

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The present number being the commencement of a new year, Subscribers are respectfully reminded that their subscription for the forthcoming twelve months which are now due, can be forwarded in Postage Stamps.

WILLIS'S CURRENT NOTES.

No. LXII.] "Takes note of what is done— By note, to give and to receive."—SHAKESPEARE. [FEBRUARY, 1856.

GREAT OYER OF POISONING.*

SIR THOMAS OVERBURY, KNIGHT, ÆTAT. XXXII.

At a period when the public attention is arrested by the numerous accusations against individuals for having insidiously exercised their skill in dispensing deadly poisons to their kindred and wives; the case of Sir Thomas Overbury occurs to excite our most particular observation, seeing that of all others, from the position of the murderers, the distinction of their characters, the malevolence of the conspiracy, and the range it was in purpose to have taken, it has no equal in history, neither before or since the perpetration of that diabolical deed.

The volume bearing the above title, embodies much that has not hitherto been printed, nor have the original papers been perused, or used by the historians of the reign of James the First, who seems to have been the presiding spirit of every bad quality, and by the subserviency of men, whose education should have embued them with more independence of character, many most disgraceful traits occur, simply from the reason to court his favour, and impose upon his weakness. The Howards of that day appear to have largely partaken of the royal patronage, and to have been utterly unworthy. The marriage of Lady Frances Howard with Robert D'Evreux, Earl of Essex; the bridegroom but fourteen years of age, and the bride not more than thirteen, has been celebrated in history by Ben Jonson's highly poetical espousal drama, the Masque of Hymen. This was the first characteristical event in a long series of incidents, all tending to an unexampled career of guilty enjoyment, magnificence, crime, and degradation. Her intrigues, young as she was, were continued in such a reckless course, that she seemed to be abandoned to all sense of shame. She intrigued with Prince Henry, and her general wantonness became so flagrant, that even he retired from her in disgust. As a woman thwarted in her object she appears to have breathed revenge, and according to the admission of Anne Turner, whose conduct was more memorable subsequently, the Prince was deprived of affording the Countess of Essex further provocation, by poisoned grapes at Woodstock.

Robert Carr, a countryman of King James, became the favourite of the monarch, and disgusting as in all particulars that connexion appears to have been,* the Countess, and her uncle, Henry Howard, Earl of Northampton, recognised in him the means of their further advancement, no matter by what crimes it was achieved, and these conspiracies would seem to have been contrived at the now Northumberland House, in the Strand.

* The Trial of the Earl of Somerset, for the poisoning of Sir Thomas Overbury; edited by Andrew Amos, Esq., late member of the Supreme Council of India; Recorder of Nottingham, Oxford, and Banbury; Auditor and Fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge, etc., with portraits, 8vo., pp. 552. The work recently published by Mr. Bentley, at FOURTEEN SHILLINGS, having become the property of Messrs. Willis and Sotheran, has been by them reduced in price to FOUR SHILLINGS AND SIXPENCE.

The woodcut is from a print engraved by Reginald Elstracke, shortly after Sir Thomas Overbury's death; it is of such extreme rarity, that at General Dowdeswell's sale, Sir Mark M. Sykes purchased an impression for fifty pounds. On the dispersion of the Sykes' collection, Woodburn was the buyer at seventy-four guineas.

* When the widow of Sir Walter Raleigh supplicated the king's mercy, and implored him to restore to her and her children Raleigh's forfeited estate of Sherborne Castle, with brutish feeling he denied her the boon, exclaiming—"I mun have it for Carr." If this fact cannot pass in the present day without exciting indignation, what must have been the feeling produced by this atrocious act on the contemporaries of Raleigh and Carr?

It was proposed to sue for a divorce between the Countess and the Earl of Essex, and to effect a marriage between her and this satellite of kingly adoption—King James not only sanctioned the proceedings, but impatiently urged them on, and dictated their final conclusion. The Countess, notwithstanding the flagrancy of her conduct, protested her innocence, and the jury of matrons who were employed on the occasion were deluded by the substitution of the daughter of Sir Thomas Mounson, who being thickly veiled eluded the detection of her identity. The divorce took place, but Overbury, who knew her infamous bearings, and appears to have been the successful director of Carr in his onward course, and to have really entertained a true friendship for him, endeavoured in every possible way to prevent the marriage—one that has no equal on record, as having been followed by consequences in which morality, law, and religion were so greatly outraged for the indulgence of guilty and impetuous passions.

Overbury was, by all the parties, considered as an impediment to the marriage—how to get rid of him was the subject of many consultations. It was proposed to involve him in a quarrel with one of the courtiers, and thus obtain his imprisonment. There were none who would quarrel with him, and the scheme failed. Sir Davie Wood, in some proceeding, had sought Carr's interest, and he consented, provided Overbury should be a sharer with him; this failed, and Sir Davie imbibed a hatred of Overbury, who he considered was the sole cause of his non-success. The Countess, aware of this ill-feeling, sought, under the promise of one thousand pounds, to induce Wood to effect Overbury's assassination. Sir Davie accepted the terms, but required a surety from Lord Rochester of a pardon from the king for the act; but as Carr could not ensure that instrument, Wood prudently declined proceeding. To poison Overbury was next determined, but the depriving him of liberty was essential to its accomplishment. Overbury was, by Carr's instigation, appointed to a ministerial appointment abroad; and he treacherously induced Overbury to refuse it; for this, the latter was on April 21, 1613, committed "for contempt" to the Tower. Sir William Waad, the governor, was dismissed under the pretext of unfitness, by having permitted the Lady Arabella Stuart a key to enlarge the limits of her range in the Tower; and succeeded by Sir Gervase Elwes, who "bled" to the tune of 2000*l.* for the place, besides a compliance with conduct required of him; and the gaoler, who had the care of Sir Thomas Overbury, was also moved to make way for Richard Weston, who had been by the Countess specially commended to that appointment. All this was accomplished in the brief space of fifteen days, and the poisoning was commenced on the 9th of May; all intercourse was denied to the unhappy victim of their vengeance, and the particulars detailed in the volume are most appalling. The poison was supplied by James Franklin, a physician, "then dwelling on the back side of the Exchange," and taken to the Countess by Anne Turner, the widow of "a Dr. Turner." From the Countess they passed to Weston, by the hands of Mrs. Turner, with the positive knowledge of Lord Rochester, and the connivance of the Governor Elwes. These poisons, however, operated but slowly, and Rochester, in his frequent visits to the Countess of Essex at her lodgings in Whitehall, having access thereto by a straight long gallery from St. James's Park,* frequently complained of the delay, and expressed doubts whether Weston was not playing the knave, and forgetting to execute his part? The eight several poisons which were administered to Overbury, were first given as a powder to renovate his health, and afterwards introduced in jellies and tarts. Mayerne, the king's physician, was induced to send Overbury medicine, being then, as stated, in a consumption, and to have been innocently made the tool of the parties by commending as medical attendant, one Paul de Lobell, an apothecary dwelling in Lime-street, near the Tower. This latter, for the sum of twenty pounds, administered a clyster, on Sept. 14th,† that ended all anxieties on the part of the persons involved in the guilty transaction.‡ Sir Thomas Overbury, already prostrated by the frequent appliance of the poison, which Weston affirmed to have been sufficient to destroy twenty other men, was a mass of sores, and reduced to skin and bone, expired about five o'clock in the morning of Wednesday, Sept. 15, 1613, and was buried in the body of the choir of the church within the Tower, between three and four p.m. on that day. Rochester was created Earl of Somerset in November following, and their marriage took place on St. Stephen's day, with unexampled pomp. Murder may for a time be hidden from mortal ken, but some unforeseen circumstance generally uplifts the veil, and discloses the villainy. The assertion that Sir Thomas Overbury had been poisoned obtained sufficient notice, that the individuals concerned were at length charged with criminality, but not till after the death of the Earl of Northampton, he who had been the main contriver, and possibly suggested the poisons, and their mode of application. He died June 15, 1614, and escaped a deservedly ignominious fate. Weston was charged in the indictment with having administered to Overbury certain poisons severally named, between May 9 and September 14; this last was not proved, but Weston, Franklin, Elwes, and Anne Turner, all perished by the hand of the hangman; their trials are embodied in this volume, and divulge astounding facts

* Through this same "straight long gallery" Charles the First passed to Whitehall on the morning of his execution, January 30, 1649.

† The charge, though urged against Weston, was not established, nor did Lobell, a Frenchman, appear in the affair; the clyster was administered by Lobell's assistant, William Reeve, who was sent to Paris immediately afterwards, by Lobell, senior, to be out of reach of enquiry, and the fact transpired years after, on the confession of Reeve.

‡ Their satiety in Overbury's blood was not sufficient for their resentment. Franklin and Turner, both spoke of other persons who were to have been poisoned by the instigation of the Earl and Countess; among them were the Princess Elizabeth and the Palsgrave Frederic.

as to their depravity of character, and the condition to which each had been brought by the gold and chicanery of both the Earl and the Countess.

At length the Countess was tried on May 24, 1616, she pleaded guilty, but hoped for mercy; and being pregnant, had determined not to perish on the scaffold, but to accomplish her own death by the placing of a wet towel upon the abdomen after being delivered of the infant.* The Earl was tried on the following day, but denied all; his peers, however, found him guilty. James, who had sworn to pardon no one implicated in the affair, yet pardoned them; the new favorite, George Villiers, extinguished every idea of Somerset's return to favour, and he lived unpitied and contemned.

At the present time, the Great Oyer of Poisoning possesses unusual importance. The evidence in all these cases has been legally investigated; the asserted great luminaries of the law, Coke and Bacon, in their characters, are here shewn to be contemptible parasites, the minions of a base monarch, and to have entertained few higher sentiments, or notions of honour, than their own advantage. The evidence of opinion, and every matter, that has arisen in other cases of atrocity, particularly those of poisoning, are all here carefully canvassed and considered. Documents, highly important, and unpublished, discovered in the State Paper Office, enrich the materials in profusion, and are edited with an aptitude that increases their value.

Camoens.—The newspapers notice the death of Sir Thomas Livingston Mitchell, D.C.L., Surveyor-General of New South Wales, at Sydney, on the 5th of October last, aged 64. He had held this appointment for more than a quarter of a century; and the inhabitants testified their respect for him by a public funeral.

When, in 1853, he came to England for the last time, he brought with him, for publication, a translation of the whole of the Lusiad of Camoens. He had served in his youth, it appears, in the Peninsula, and was inspired with an ardent love for the poetry of Camoens, in consequence of an accidental visit to the celebrated Fount of Tears, in the vicinity of Coimbra, the scene of the murder of Dona Ignez de Castro. In the preface, we are told, the translation was made in a small clipper, during a long and tedious voyage round Cape Horn. E. H. A.

George Weare Braikenridge, Esq., F.S.A. and F.G.S., of Broomwell House, Brislington, near Bristol, died after a few days illness, on the 11th inst., in his eighty-first year. His collections for the History and Topography of the County of Somerset, are of the most varied, extensive, and valuable character.

* This infant was subsequently Anne, Countess of Bedford, and mother of Lord William Russell, who expiated his hatred of the Stuarts by his execution in Lincoln's-Inn-Fields. Qu. Was the infant daughter of Somerset named Anne in compliment to the Queen of James the First?

PARC-AN-CHAPEL, CAPE CORNWALL.

Whilst engaged in collecting materials for the work on the Crosses and Antiquities in the West of Cornwall, referred to in the last number of Current Notes, I had occasion to visit Cape Cornwall in quest of the ruins of an ancient chapel said to be still there; these I found with little difficulty, the spot being well known to many persons in the neighbourhood. In the west of Cornwall are remains of many similar structures, a list and the localities of which, will be found in the work above mentioned.

The woodcut represents the ruins of the chapel at Cape Cornwall; the two walls on the north side, and the east end. The doorway, like that of Madron Well Chapel, is on the northern side: it is two feet wide, and five feet high; and near the east end of the same wall, is a small window, two feet wide.

In the east end, which is between six and seven feet high, is a comparatively large window, measuring on the inside six feet in width; but it is less on the outside. The eastern part of the side, as seen in the woodcut, was faced with hewn stone, no doubt denoting the length of the chancel. On the south side all that remains is the foundation. A modern building for cattle has been erected at the extremity of the northern wall, and on my last visit to the spot, I found the eastern part of the chapel covered in, and used for a similar purpose.

Externally, the length of the building is thirty-two feet, the width twelve feet. On the north side are remains of a wall which seems to have formed a circular enclosure around the chapel; this was the chapel-yard, and it is remarkable that the boundary wall of Madron Well Chapel was of a similar form.

This building has been called or known as St. Helen's Oratory; and in a water course near the ruins was found a small cross, supposed to have been the gable cross that formerly pertained to this structure; it has since been placed in the chancel of St. Just church.*

Penzance, Feb. 14. J. T. Blight.

* The Rev. J. Buller, in his Account of St. Just's parish, 1842, p. 45, alludes to this discovery in these words:—

The cross which once embellished the little chapel is of the rudest form, and was rescued a few years since by him who records the fact, from the artificial water-course which passes near, in which it was immersed.

It may now be seen preserved as a valuable relic in the chancel of the parish church, with a brass-plate denoting its ancient locality.

PARC-AN-CHAPEL, CAPE CORNWALL.

The warlike tribes which in the earliest period of her history occupied Britain, appear to have seized on every spot of vantage ground to construct places of defence. In many instances portions of the cliffs on the sea coast, accessible only on the land side, were by them converted into strongholds, by artificial fortifications in that direction. The bold promontory of Cape Cornwall affords an example of this kind of fortress, or cliff castle. Three parallel lines were constructed across the low neck of land by which it is approached; each had its ditch and rampart; and was extended from cliff to cliff on either side. Between these lines some very old enclosures have been made, and the land cultivated; the spade and the mattock have indeed, year after year, been so busy with the old fortifications, that the casual visitor may pass through without observing them; but he cannot well fail to see among these enclosures, a low roofless ruin, which on inspection will be found to have been erected with a considerable degree of care, at a distant period. The quoins and courses of the eastern portion of the building are of well cut granite; and in the eastern gable are the remains of a comparatively large window, which in its internal display exhibits some fine proportions.

The entrance to this ruin is by an arched doorway in the north wall, near the western end, and facing the Bristol Channel, or, if you like it—the Irish Sea.

On the south side, near the western end, and in close connection, is another building that appears to have been erected at the same time. This, within a few years, has been neatly roofed over with slate, and is used for the purposes of an outbuilding to the little farm there. A small and rude enclosure nearly encircles the ruin. If the tenant, who lives in the cottage hard by, or any of his family who may happen to be working on the land, are asked the name of this spot, the enquirer will be told—Parc-an-Chapel, or the Chapel in the Field. He may also hear, that whilst the church at St. Just was some years since being restored under the inspection of the Rev. J. Buller, then vicar, he caused to be conveyed thither from this locality, a cross that belonged to the chapel.

I cannot undertake to say there may not have been another Parc-an-Chapel hereabouts, and now destroyed; or, that I may have been misinformed as to the name of the ruin here described; but as a ruin, I believe, it is still extant.

Exon, February 1. H. A. C.

LETTER SEALS.—What is the surest method of sealing letters, so that they may not be opened *in transitu?*

Ryde, Isle of Wight, Feb. 11. A. F. T.

No more effective security for sealed letters has been devised than simply using a wafer to a non-adhesive envelope, and then applying a thin layer of the finest sealing wax. This impressed with the seal bids defiance to their being opened without shewing the attempted violation. The wax not to extend beyond the size of the seal. The application of heat or steam will only harden the wafer.

MADRON BAPTISTERY AND WELL.

Some additional particulars respecting Madron Well, with a detailed account of the rites observed by those who sought its healing waters, are given in Observations on an Ancient Manuscript, entitled Passio Christi, written in the Cornish language, and now in the Bodleian Library; with an account of the Language, Manners, and Customs of the people of Cornwall, by William Scawen, Esq., Vice-Warden of the Stannaries. The paper will be found in Davies Gilbert's Parochial History of Cornwall, Vol. IV. p. 190. The writer lived in the Stuart reigns, and was a prisoner under Shrubsall, the Parliamentarian Governor of Pendennis Castle.

Bodmin, February 6, THOMAS Q. COUCH.

Of St. Mardren's Well, (which is a parish west to the Mount) a fresh true story of two persons, both of them lame and decrepit, thus recovered from their infirmity. These two persons, after they had applied themselves to divers physicians and chirurgeons for cure, and finding no success by them, they resorted to St. Mardren's Well, and according to the ancient custom, of which they had heard, the same which was once in a year, to wit, on Corpus Christi evening, to lay some small offering on the altar there, and to lie on the ground all night, drink of the water there, and in the morning after, to take a good draught more, and to take and carry away some of the water each of them in a bottle, at their departure. This course these two men followed, and within three weeks they found the effect of it, and by degrees their strength increasing, were able to move themselves on crutches. The year following, they took the same course, after which they were able to go with the help of a stick; and at length one of them, John Thomas, being a fisherman, was, and is able at this day, to follow his fishing craft. The other, whose name was William Cork, was a soldier under the command of my kinsman, Colonel William Godolphin, (as he has often told me) was able to perform his duty, and died in the service of his majesty, King Charles the First.

But herewith take also this: one Mr. Hutchins, a person well known in those parts, and now lately dead, being parson of Ludgvan, a near neighbouring parish to St. Mardren's Well, he observing that many of his parishioners often frequented this well superstitiously, for which he reproved them privately, and sometimes publicly in his sermons; but afterwards, he the said Mr. Hutchins, meeting with a woman coming from the well with a bottle in her hand, desired her earnestly that he might drink thereof, being then troubled with cholical pains, which accordingly he did, and was eased of his infirmity.

The latter story is a full confutation of the former for if the taking the water accidentally thus prevailed upon the party to his cure, as it is likely it did, then the miracle which it was intended to be by the ceremony of lying on the ground and offering, is wholly fled, and it leaves the virtue of the water to be the true cause of the cure. And we have here, as in many places of the land, great variety of salutary springs, having diversity of operations, which by natural reason have been found to be productive of good effects, and not by miracle, as the vain fancies of monks and friars have been exercised in heretofore.

Schiller's works are prohibited by the Austro-Italian bishops.

MADRON WELL CHAPEL.

Several interesting particulars on the subject of Madron Well Chapel having appeared in Current Notes, I doubt not the following remarks, embodied in a letter dated Penzance, May 17, 1819, for the purpose of eliciting some elucidation of the enquiries then made, will be interesting to your readers.

Penzance, Feb. 4. H.

In Cornwall there are several wells which bear the name of some patron saint, who appears to have had a chapel consecrated to him, or her, on the spot. This appears by the name of Chapel Saint, attached by tradition to each. These chapels probably were simply Oratories, but in the parish of Maddern [now spelled Madron], is a well called "Maddern Well," inclosed in a complete Baptistery: the walls, seats, doorway, and altar of which still remain. The socket, that received the base of the crucifix, or pedestal of the saint's image, is perfect; and the foundations of the outer walls is apparent. The whole ruin is very picturesque, and I wonder it is passed over in so slight a manner by all Cornish historians, and particularly by Borlase, who speaks merely of the virtues superstitiously ascribed to the waters.

I was surprised at being informed that the superstitious of the neighbourhood attend on the first Thursday in May to consult this oracle by dropping pins, etc. Why on the Thursday? May not this be some vestige of the day on which the baptisteries were opened after their being kept closed and sealed during Lent, which was on Maundy Thursday? My informant told me that Thursday was the particular day of the week, though some came on the second and third Thursday.* May was the first month after Easter, when the waters had been especially blessed; for then was the great time of baptism. When I visited this Well last week, I found a Polianthus and some article of an infant's dress, which shewed that votaries had been there. After the sixth century, these baptisteries were removed into the Church. I will thank any of your readers who can inform me whether there are any other remains of the kind in this country so perfect, and I shall be much obliged at a probable guess at the age of this building, and for any other information that may induce me to revisit it with increased motives of admiration.

LINES TO HIS EXCELLENCY ELFI BEY, on his Visit to the Printing Office of the Morning Chronicle, Nov. 28, 1803.

(Printed from Professor Porson's Manuscript.)

Hail to the CHIEF, who with a Patriot's zeal,
Wooes BRITAIN's friendship for his Country's weal;
Who, having fought and triumph'd in her cause,
Now seeks to cultivate her ARTS and LAWS:
Who views our Isle in conscious vigour bold,
For EUROPE's Peace her energies unfold.
Would he the secret of our strength explore,
And bear it back to ÆGYPT's fruitful shore?
Oh, may the secret to the earth belong!
The FREEDOM that enlightens makes us strong.

No. 145, Strand. JAMES PERRY.

* The practice for some time past has been to bring diseased children to the Well, on the first three Sundays in May. H.

PREDICTED SUBVERSION OF THE TURKISH EMPIRE.

Among the books presented by Lady Campden to Sion College Library, is a copy of Francisci Quaresmii Elucidatio Terræ Sanctæ, Antv. 1639, folio; in the first volume of that work, at p. 265, is the following passage. The reference is to Francesco Navarro, Discurso sobre la Conjuncion Maxima, que fue en Deziembre del año 1603.

Circa quod priore loco propositus est, possumus hujus scriptoris sententiam ad quinque articulos reducere. Primus sit. Mahometa secta, cum suis sectatoribus et singulariter Turcicum Imperium, in spiritualibus et temporalibus finem habebit intra spatium annorum 251, tot enim dumtaxat illi supersunt.

Quando vero hæc scribebat Doctor Navarrus, vertebatur annus nostræ salutis 1604, quare secundum istum anno 1855, vel circiter, quoad tam spiritualia quam temporalia (hæc enim duo ritè in Mahometica Secta et Imperio Turcico Auctor ille considerat) cessabit et finem habebit perdita ista superstitio.

Articulus quartus: Hoc regnum et secta penitus destructa et abolita erunt anno Domini 1854, vel 1856.

This prediction may be thus translated:—

Concerning that which is mentioned in the former place, we are able to reduce the opinion of this writer, viz.—Francis Navarre, to five points.

First, that the Mahommedan sect with its adherents, especially the Turkish Empire, will, both in its spiritual and temporal power, come to an end within the space of 251 years, for so many only remain to it.

When Dr. Navarre wrote this, the year A.D. 1604 was completed, hence according to him, in the year 1855, that abandoned superstition both in its spiritual and temporal power (for such is the Mahommedan sect and Turkish Empire justly considered by this author;) will cease and come to an end.

The fourth point is, that this kingdom and sect will be entirely destroyed and done away with, A.D. 1854, or 1856.

When it is considered that this presage was really written two centuries and a half since; and the fact of the acceptation by the Sultan and his ministers of the requirements made to them by England and France, it will be seen that this prediction has virtually happened! The passive Turk may no longer oppress the Christian, and the bolder energies of the latter will finally subvert Mahommedanism; the Cross will be exalted to the exclusion of the Crescent, and this certain and rapid declension may be dated from 1856. This vast revolutionary change has been no less forced on the Turk, by the aggressions of Russia, than by the obstinacy of the ruling powers of the Turkish Empire, till at length unable in the presence of the allied powers to defend the tyrannical dogmas of their faith, an effectual change has been demanded, and the events of 1854 and 1855, were the unmistakeable precursors of what has happened, and will farther advance during 1856.

Adam Mickiewicz, the celebrated Polish poet, was buried in the church of the Madeleine, at Paris, on the 21st ultimo.

EDITIONS OF AMADIS DE GAULA.

The following is a summary of the various editions of the Romances of Amadis; Seville being the city where most of them were printed. The G. annexed implies that there are copies in the Grenville library, now in the British Museum; the P. indicates those in the library at Middle Hill.

I.—IV. Amadis de Gaula,	Salamanca 1519, 1575.
——	Saragoça 1521. P.
——	Sevilla 1526, 1547, 1552, 1575.
——	Venice 1533. G.
V. Esplandian,	Sevilla 1526, 1542. G.
——	Burgos 1526. P.
——	Saragoça 1587.
——	Alcala 1588.
VI. Florisando,	Salamanca 1510 [1519?]
——	Sevilla 1525.
VII. Perion de Gaula,	Sevilla 1525.
——	Toledo 1539.
——	Saragoça 1587. P.
——	Lisbona 1587.
VIII. Lisuarte de Grecia,	Sevilla 1526. P.
IX. Amadis de Grecia,	Burgos 1535.
——	Sevilla 1542. G. and P.
——	Lisbona 1596.
X. Florisel de Niquea,	Valladolid 1532. G.
——	Lisbona 1566.
——	Sevilla 1568.
——	Saragoça, 1584. P.
XI. Rogel de Grecia,	Sevilla 1536, 1546, 1568.
——	Evora, not dated, 15 . .. P.
XII. Silves de la Selva,	Sevilla 1546. P.

XIII. Esferamundus, mentioned, but no place.

The order in which these Romances appeared will be best illustrated by the following genealogy:—

Perion, whose deeds are not recorded=

I.-IV. Amadis de Gaula= Florestan=

V. Esplandian= VII. Perion de Gaula. VI. Florisando.

VIII. Lisuarte de Grecia=

IX. Amadis de Grecia=

X. Florisel de Niquea=

XI. Rogel de Grecia=

XII. Silves de la Selva=

XIII. Esferamundus

Middle Hill, Feb. 3. T. P.

Poetry takes its origin from emotion recollected in tranquillity. *Wordsworth.*

NOTES ON SIR WALTER SCOTT'S LETTER.

I have had great pleasure in perusing the inedited letter of Sir Walter Scott, printed in Current Notes, pp. 4-5. My father for many years rented a farm of Mr. Ellis, to whom it was addressed; and from the kindness that gentleman evinced towards myself, I ever respect his memory. At the sale of his library in May 1830, shortly after his decease, I made several purchases, but omitted to secure his copy of Froissart, with the elaborate Index to that work, in his beautiful handwriting. This was often to me a cause of regret, as I lost all trace of where it had gone; but in 1841, at the sale of the library of the Rev. John Dodd, late Vicar of this town, I obtained it, and the book with the Index is now in my possession. The latter is in foolscap size, of about 150 closely written pages. I never saw or heard of another copy; Scott's request as to the liberty of printing, appears to have failed of success.

My father once saw James Allan at Harbottle-fair, in a room crowded with people: he was chanting some verses of a song, and accompanying them on the pipes, making his instrument almost *speak* any word of double meaning, which he himself hesitated to utter. The Alnwick work upon him, was the first edition of his Life printed in that town; later editions of the volume were printed here, by Mackenzie and Dent. The particulars relating to Ringan Oliver and the Marquis of Lothian were communicated by James Veitch of Inchbonny, not Inchbinny, in a letter now before me dated June 21, 1836, and addressed to my worthy friend, Mr. James Telfer of Saughtree, Liddesdale, who wrote a good ballad on the subject, reprinted in his volume of Tales and Ballads, published in 1852. It is likely he will include this letter among his Border Gatherings. a work on which he is at present engaged.

I remember seeing James Veitch several times at Jedburgh; he was a tall stout man dressed like a superior workman, and wore a leather apron not over clean, much rounded at the bottom, and so short that it did not reach his knees. Besides being a first-rate maker of refracting and reflecting Telescopes, he made several pairs of spectacles for the neighbouring gentry; and an eight-day clock for Sir Walter Scott, which I have no doubt still indicates the hours at Abbotsford. A small white globe, not quite a foot in diameter, projecting from the wall, at the west corner of his house at Inchbonny, served the purpose of a sun-dial. His family were distinguished for mechanical genius. From his father's sister descended another friend of mine, James Thomson of Otterburn, who from the extent of his scientific acquirements, was possibly a still more remarkable man than his successful relative.

The lines to which allusion is made, are not on the North Tyne, which is a slip in Sir Walter's recollection, but are entitled—The Marriage of the Coquet and the Alwine; forming one of the poetical Tracts edited for the Typographical Society of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, in 1817, by the late Mr. John Adamson. They are written after the manner of Drayton, in his Marriage of the

Tame and the Isis, in the fifteenth song of Poly Olbion. The author's name appears to have been Shepherd, which for his own reasons the Editor very carefully concealed. I have an old manuscript copy of the poem bearing L. T., as the initials of the author.

The Lay of the Reedwater Minstrel was written by my late friend, Robert Roxby; the original manuscript is in my collection. Mr. Roxby, in conjunction with Mr. Thomas Doubleday, wrote the Coquet-dale Fishing Songs, of which an elegant edition was published in 1852, by Messrs. Blackwood.

Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Feb. 6. ROBERT WHITE.

MODERN CONSERVATORS OF ANCIENT ART.

A letter dated Naples, January 8, states, "an act recently committed here, has created as much indignation and ridicule among artistic persons, as the outrages of Mazza did lately in the political world. The group of the Rape of the Sabines, that has adorned the Villa Reale ever since the time of Charles the Third, has been removed from the public gardens. The group is a copy of the celebrated work of John of Bologna, and has not been imagined generally as capable of awakening any prurient thought, but within the last week has been condemned, muffled in canvas, and committed to the prisons of the Museum. The same fate it is said awaits the Rape of Europa, and the Rape of Proserpine, now in the Villa Reale. The Venuses of the Museum and the Nereid, are already locked up, and one unfortunate Venus, the Vincitrice of Capua, which had escaped priestly wrath, is soon to be laid hands on. Condemned to be no better than they should be, they are to be placed under lock and key—a fact! and this in a city where the foulest acts and sights present themselves every hour in the day, to the passenger; where a foreign lady can scarcely walk without blushing, and all these impurities which befoul the streets might be prevented by stringent directions to the police, from the men whose modesty they affect is shocked by a Sabine or a Venus. It is but due, that in the interests of art, such absurdities should be made known to the civilised world."

BELFRY RHYMES. BOWDEN RINGERS ORDERS.

You Ringers all, observe these Orders well!
He pays his Sixpence, that o'erturns a Bell;
And he that Rings with either spur or hat,
Must pay his Sixpence certainly for that;
And He that Rings and does disturb the Peal,
Must pay his Sixpence, or a Gun of Ale.
These Laws elsewhere in ev'ry Church are used,
That Bells and Ringers may not be abused.

According to Halliwell's Dictionary of Archaisms and Provincialisms, Gun is a north country word, for a large flagon of ale. Unde, "Son of a gun, implies a merry, jovial, drunken fellow."

Rectory, Clyst St. George, Feb. 2. H. T. E.

COINAGE OF EDWARD THE FIRST.

Some months since I proposed that a complete list of all Edward the First and Second's pennies should be published in Current Notes; and now forward a list of those which have come under my notice, and shall feel much obliged if any of your readers who are interested in Numismatics would add to it any varieties. The basis of this list is Mr. Hawkins's Account of the Tutbury and Wyke "finds," in neither of which is the presence or absence of the marks of abbreviation of the EDW R' noticed—in the following list I shall presume this to be found on all the coins.

The London mint is placed first in the list, as emanating from the seat of regal authority: the provincial mints follow in alphabetical order.

Nottingham. F. R. N. HASWELL.

LONDON.

In the word ANGL the G is invariably of the gothic character, the lower part curled inward.

1. EDW R ANGL DNS HYB
   CIVI TAS LON DON Letters large; m.m. a large cross, with a long line at each end.

A variety has the DN in DNS; and ON in LONDON, in monogram. Another has a colon after EDW R:

2. As no. 1, but with two dots on breast, intended for a brooch.
3. Obv., as no. 1. Rev. CIVI SAT LON DON
4. As no. 1, but the letters are smaller; the coin is itself less in size than the former.
5. As no. 4, but m.m. still smaller, and a star on the breast at junction of mantle.
6. As no. 5, but on the reverse, the pellets overlay each other like scales.
7. As no. 3, m.m. a cross pattée, with a small line in continuation of each horizontal limb.
8. •EDW R ANGL DNS HYB
   •CIVI TAS LON DON As no. 1, but with pellets before legends.
9. As no. 8, but with pellet only on reverse before the legend.
10. As no. 2, with dot or pellet before LONDON on the reverse.
11. As no. 10, but the letter N on the obverse is in English character; on the reverse in Roman.
12. As no. 2, but with a peculiarly formed cross on reverse before LONDON, the horizontal bar being simply a line.
13. As no. 1, the cross plain, not pattée at the ends. The letters rather large.
14. As no. 2, on reverse HB in place of HYB
15. EDW RE ANGL DNϩ YB
    CIVI TAS LON DON Letters large.
16. EDW REX ANGL DNS HYB
    CIVI TAS LON DON Letters small.
17. Bust in Triangle. Reverse, CIVITAS LONDON Cuff's Sale Catalogue, nos. 785 and 786.
18. As no. 16, but on obverse, a rose on the King's breast. Cuff, no. 785.

19. As no. 16, on rev. CIVITAS LVNDEN Cuff, no. 786.

BERWICK.

20. EDW R ANGL DNS HYB
VILL ABE REV VICI Letters and cross large.
21. As. no. 20, but letters small.
22. EDW R ANGL DNS HYB
VILL ABE RRE WICI Letters small.
23. EDW R ANGL DNS HYB
: VIL LAB ERE VICI Letters small.
24. EDW R ANGL DNS HYD. Thus on the coin.
VIL ABE REV VICI Letters small. Roman E.
25. EDW R ANGL DNS HYB
VILL ABE RE WICI In place of pellets, on reverse, a bear's head in one of the quarters.

BRISTOL.

26. EDW R ANGL DNS HYB
VILL ABR ISTO LLIE Letters and cross large.
27. As no. 26, but with very broad cross on reverse. Altogether a better minted coin than usual.
28. EDW R ANGL DNS HYB
VILL BRI STO LIE Letters and cross small.
29. EDW R ANGL DNS HYB Star on breast:
VILL BRI STO LIE
30. As no. 29.
VILL ABR ISTO LLIЄ

CANTERBURY.

31. EDW R ANGL DNS HYB
CIVI TAS CAN TOR Large letters, similar to no. 1.
32. As no. 31, but Saxon Є on obverse.
33. As no. 31, but smaller in all respects.
34. As no. 33; star on king's breast. Coin smaller than the preceding.
35. •EDW R ANGL DNS HYB. Brooch on breast.
•CIVI TAS CAN TOR. Similar to no. 31.
36. As no. 35, but no brooch on breast.
37. As no. 36; the pellet before legend on reverse.
38. EDW R ANGL DNS HYB Two dots on king's breast.
CIVI TAS CAN •TOR As no. 31.

CHESTER.

39. EDW R ANGL DNS HYB
CIVI TAS CES TRIE Letters and cross large.
40. Obverse and reverse similar to no. 39; but letters and cross smaller.
41. EDW R ANGL DNS HYB
CIVI TAS SESTRIE Coin in all respects smaller than the preceding.
42. Obverse as no. 41.
CIVI TAS ECES TRIE

DURHAM.

43. EDW R ANGL DNS HYB Cross pattée.
CIVI TAS DVR EME Large letters.
44. As no. 43, but cross and letters smaller.
45. As no. 44. Star on king's breast.
46. ЄDW R ANGL DNS HYB
CIVI TAS DVR ЄMIЄ Small letters.
47. EDW R ANGL DNS HYB
CIVI TAS DVR EME Large letters. Mint mark, on reverse, a cross moline (Bp. Beck, 1283-1311.)
48. As no. 47, but small letters.
49. As no. 47. Cross moline m.m. before legend on obverse and reverse.
50. As no. 48. Star on king's breast; the cross moline m.m. on obverse only.
51. EDW R ANGL DNS HYB
CIV ITA SDVR EME Cross moline m.m. before legend obverse and reverse. Letters small.
52. EDW R ANGL DNS HYB
CIVI TAS EME DVR The syllables transposed; large letters.
53. As no. 47; but on reverse, in one quarter, a cross moline instead of pellets.

ST. EDMUNDSBURY.

54. EDW R ANGL DNS HYB
VILL SCIE DMV NDI Letters small.
55. As no. 54. Star on king's breast. Letters small.
56. EDW R ANGL DNS HYB Brooch on breast.
VIL LAS EDM VNDI Letters large.
57. Obverse as no. 54.
VILA SCI EDM VNDI Letters small.
58. Obverse as no. 54.
VILA SCIE DMV NDI
59. Obverse as no. 54.
VILA SCI EDM VNDI
60. EDW R ANGL DNS HYB
ROBE RTDE HADE LEIE Large letters. Cross small and plain.

A variety has the RO and the DE on reverse, braced as monograms.

Robert de Hadley was moneyer here in 1280. His coins are the last in the English Series on which the name of the Moneyer ostensibly appears.

61. As no. 60, but with Saxon Є.
62. EDW R ANGL DNS HYB
ROBE RTVS DEH ADL' Letters small.
63. EDW R ANGL DNS HIB Reverse similar to no. 60.
64. Obverse as no. 62.
ROBЄ RTV SDEH ADL'
65. Obverse, bust in a triangle. Reverse as no. 60. Cuff's Sale Catalogue, no. 785.
66. Obverse as no. 65. Reverse similar to no. 62

EXETER.

67. EDW. R ANGL DNS HYB Star on breast.
CIVITAS EXONIE Small letters.

Another, similar type; no star on the breast.

KINGSTON-UPON-HULL.

68. EDW R ANGL DNS HYB Star on breast.
VILL KYN GES TON Small letters.

69. ЄDW R ANGL DNS HYB
VILL' KYN GЄS TON

LINCOLN.

70. EDW R ANGL DNS HYB
CIVI TAS LIN COL Large letters.
71. As no. 70; but reverse showing mark of abbreviation LIN COL'

NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE.

72. EDW R ANGL DNS HYB
VILL ANO VICA STRI
In the N of the word ANGL on obverse, is a dot or roundel. Cross and letters large.
73. As no. 72, but no dot as above.
74. EDW R ANGL DNS HYB
VILL NOVI CAS TRI Letters small.
75. EDW R ANGL DNS HYB
VILL' NOVI CAS TRI
76. EDW R ANGL DNS HYB Star on breast.
VILL NOV CAS TRI Letters small.
77. EDW R ANGL DNS HYB
VIL NOV CAS TRI

YORK.

78. EDW R ANGL DNS HYB
CIVI TAS EBO RACI Large letters.
79. Obverse as no. 78.
CIVI TAS EBOR ACI Large letters.
80. Obverse and reverse legends same as no. 78; but a star on the king's breast, and letters smaller.
81. Same as no. 80., but having on reverse a quatrefoil in centre of cross.
82. Obverse and reverse, same as no. 78. A cross on the king's breast, and quatrefoil on reverse as no. 81. Letters large.
83. As no. 82, but small letters.
84. ЄDW R ANGL DNS HYB
CIVI TAS EBO RACI

A variety has on obverse the name thus, ЄDVV.

DUBLIN, IRELAND.

85. EDW R' ANGL DNS HYB A dot below bust.
CIVITAS DVBLINIE Small letters.
86. As no. 85, but EDW R' on obverse.
87. Legends same as no. 85; but the letters on obverse are small; large on the reverse.
88. Legends as no. 85, but two dots below the king's bust. Letters large.
89. As no. 88, but small letters.
90. Legends as no. 85; two dots below bust; the letters on obverse small, on the reverse large.
91. As no. 85. A brooch in addition to dot on king's breast.
92. ЄDW. R' ANGL' DN̄S HYB
CIVITAS DVBLINIE. On obverse, two dots and a third for brooch on king's breast. Letters large.
93. •ЄDW • R • ANGL DN̄S HYB
Reverse as no. 85. Letters large.
94. •EDW. R. ANGL. DNS HYB. Two dots below bust. Reverse as no. 85.
95. ЄDW R ANGL' DN̄S HYB' A dot below bust. Reverse as no. 85.

WATERFORD.

96. •EDW R ANGL DNS HYB
CIVITAS WATERFOR
97. •EDW. R' ANGL DN̄S HYB
Reverse, same as no. 94.
98. •ЄDW. R'. ANGL DN̄S HYB Two dots below bust. Letters larger than usual.
CIVITAS WATERFOR. Limb of the R's turned up, with a dot under each.
99. •EDW. R. ANGL. DNS HYB
CIVI TAS WATE RFOR Letters small.
100. •ЄDW R'. ANGL'. DNS HYB Two dots below bust.
CIVITAS VATEFOR' Letters small.

CORK.

101. ЄDW R' ANGL DNS HYH Dot below bust.
CIVITAS CORCACIЄ Letters small.

There are varieties of nos. 4, 12, and 11, with the English Є on obverse. Of no. 40, with Roman C on reverse; and one of no. 14 with R's similar to those noticed in no. 98.

BAKER'S DOZEN.—What is the right meaning of the phrase, a baker's dozen?

Diss, Feb. 7. S. L. S.

Thirteen as twelve, which has long been the custom. Taylor, the Water-poet, in his Travels of Twelve Pence, notices—

How bakers thirteene penny loaues doe giue,
All for a shilling, and thriue well, and liue.

So also, Margaret, Duchess of Newcastle, in her Nature's Picture, 1656, folio, observes—

In this volume there are several feigned stories; also, there are some Morals, and some Dialogues; but they are as the advantage loaf of bread to the baker's dozen.

CREATION OF PEERS FOR LIFE.

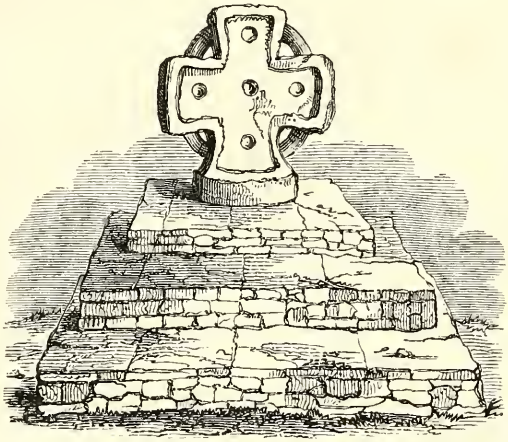
The opponents to the unquestionably constitutional and legal prerogative vested in the Queen's authority to create Peers for life, appear to have purposely omitted any reference to Blackstone, who in his Commentaries, p. 401, observes:—

Creation by writ has one advantage over that by patent: for a person created by writ holds the dignity to him *and his heirs*, without any words to that purport in the writ; but in letters patent there must be words to direct the inheritance, else the dignity ensues only to the grantee for life.* For a man or woman may be created noble for their own lives, and the dignity not descend to their heirs at all, or descend only to some particular heirs: as where a peerage is limited to a man, and the heirs male of his body by Elizabeth his present lady, and not to such heirs by any former or future wife.

* Co. Litt., 9, 16. See 1 Woodes. 87.

CROSS AT ST. BURYAN, CORNWALL.

The antiquity of Crosses everywhere, but especially in Cornwall, is an old and somewhat worn subject, but I consider one in the churchyard of St. Buryan in that county, is entitled to more than a passing notice. I have looked into all the Cornish histories at my command, but in none of them do I find the Buryan Cross engraved. The Rev. W. Haslam, known as the discoverer of the old Oratory of Perran Zabuloe; not many years since engraved some of the Cornish Crosses, which in that part are very abundant, two of them were in St. Buryan parish, but that of which I forward a sketch is a third.



It is of a form rarely met with in Cornwall—a Maltese cross surrounded by a circle; a beautiful emblem of the eternal efficacy of the Atonement. On one side, somewhat mutilated and time-worn, is the crucified Christ; on the other, as shewn in the sketch, are the emblems of the five wounds received on Calvary.

The devotional character and thought about this Cross may well serve as a suggestion for the church restorers of the nineteenth century.

I should be glad to know the order in which the various forms of crosses may be arranged, from the Latin cross, to the more elaborate sculpture of the decorated period of English architects. Where may such a classification be found?

Feb. 12. T. H. PATTISON.

HOYLE.—Huddesford in his Catalogue of Anthony Wood's Manuscripts, in the Ashmolean Museum, Oxford, describes, no. 8466, as an account of the Nobility and Gentry, buried at Oxford, since 1643, etc. Among the persons noticed is JOSHUA HOYLE, Master of University College, and Regius Professor of Divinity.

TALBOIS.—No. 8465, in the same Collection, is a folio volume of Pedigrees of the Nobility and Gentry of England, transcribed by Ralph Sheldon of Beoley; among them is one of the TALBOIS family.

THE CRIMEA SEVENTY YEARS SINCE.

Blinded by political prejudices, England appears to have turned a deafened ear to all the aspirations of warning against the aggressions of the Russians in the Black Sea, abetted as they have been by the assistance or connivance of both Austria and Prussia. No one who reads Capt. Sutherland's Tour from Gibraltar to Constantinople, printed in 1790, will fail being impressed with surprise that warnings so broadly and so unequivocally expressed, should have failed in exciting a more particular attention on the part of successive governments in England to our national interests. The Russian fleet in the Black Sea was then officered by Englishmen, and under their superior abilities and nautical experience, in the bay of Chisemê inflicted a fatal blow to the Turkish Empire, and created that naval supremacy for the Russian, which has in 1855 been wholly subverted. The ambitious projects of the Empress Catherine, in 1788, with the entry of the Austrians under the Prince of Saxe Cobourg into Moldavia, created a determined resistance on the part of Turkey, which elicited from Capt. Sutherland the following animated remarks on the cupidity of our rulers.

As an Englishman, policy obliges me to wish success to the Turks. I feel the utmost detestation of the ambitious combination entered into by the Emperor of Austria and the Empress Catherine to extirpate the Turks, merely because Nature has been bountiful to their soil, and because their country promised an easy conquest. These Powers could scarcely imagine that Europe would look on with indifference: but they trusted they had a sufficient party to prevent any open declaration in favour of the injured Turks. These expectations the total suspension of the powers of France must have frustrated.

The writer in calling upon Prussia and England to support the Turk, if on no better terms than the strict observance by Russia of the Treaty of Cainardgie, a treaty which England was bound to redress, observes—

What has become of that spirit of virtue and generosity, which not fifty years since led us to enter into an expensive war, in favour of Maria Theresa, merely because she was then an unfortunate Princess, oppressed by an ambitious neighbour, whose usurpations like those of Russia, threatened in time to affect ourselves.

It is, no doubt, a considerable abatement of the honest joy an Englishman feels in contemplating this act of magnanimity in his ancestors, to find, that ingratitude has been the only return which has been made to us. In cherishing Austria and Russia, we may really be said to have nurtured the viper in our bosom, which in the moment of our distress attempted a mortal wound by forming the *Armed Neutrality*, or in plain language, a combination to supply our enemies with implements for our destruction.

If justice to the Turks, whom we have reduced to so critical a situation; if a sense of our national dignity; if our dearest interest and commercial concerns will not induce us to speak boldly in a moment like this, self-preservation at least should affect us. Let us recollect that Russia is an evil-disposed aspiring child; that we now have it in our power to curb her proud spirit; but that if we neglect this opportunity and allow her to increase in

pride, and in strength, in a few years she may perhaps trample on our breasts.

Pax queritur in Bello is a favourite motto, but Wars guarded against in peace, is in my opinion a much better one; and this is the motto England ought to choose. There is nothing in the present state of Europe, that Great Britain can in justice require, but what she must immediately gain. Let her then dictate terms to Russia, and check her ambitious views. If she refuses to submit, shew us the Power who at this moment will dare to oppose the serious threats of England? Vengeance would soon overwhelm her.

CENSURE AGAINST SNUFF-TAKING IN CHURCH.

The Sessional Records of Brechin, contain the following reprehension against the taking of snuff during divine service.

1638, Oct. 2. Thomas Will, Alexander Gawin and others, being called in this day before the Sessioun for taking of snuff in tym of divyn seruice, and that publickly to the offence of vthers, ane ewill example to wyrs to doe the lyk, they confessed and promises not to the lyk in tymes to come or wyr wayes to vnderlye the censur of the Session.

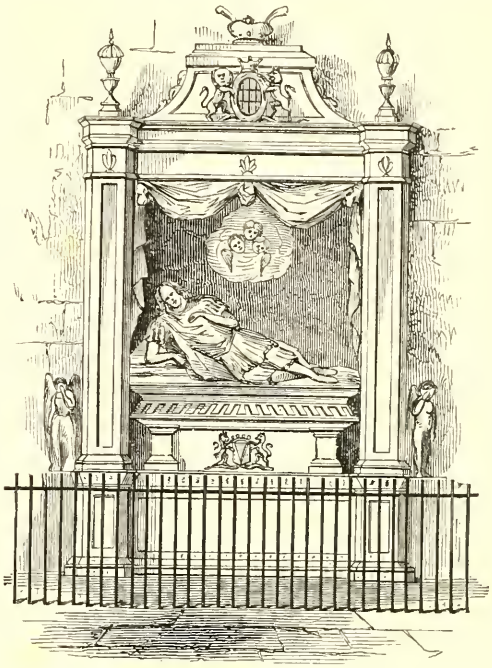
Brechin, Feb. 7. A. J.

HOLLES MONUMENT, ST. PETER'S, DORCHESTER.

After a highly successful appeal to the town of Dorchester, and the county of Dorset, in aid of a fund for the repairing and restoring the beautiful old church of St. Peter's, sufficient has been obtained for effecting the more immediate requirements, leaving contemplated improvements, works of ornament and minor importance, to be effected when further contributions could be afterwards collected. These repairs have been progressing for some months past; and amongst the exceptions, caused by the inadequacy of means, was the removal of the monument of Denzil, Baron Holles of Ifield, from the eastern window of the south aisle, to some other part of the church, in order to open that window, that had been completely blocked up by the monument. One of the gentlemen of the Committee having given orders for its removal, the monument has been taken down, and partly put up at the western end of the north aisle.

From the first I have been acting as one of the Honorary Secretaries to the Committee appointed for the effecting these repairs, and until the occurrence of this circumstance have been wholly in accord with the persons of that Committee, and their plans; but in this I unfortunately differ from the parties assuming the management, and consider this difference as being on a subject, beyond the mere question of ornament, and am therefore induced to this remonstrance, in the hope of drawing the attention of all lovers of antiquity and beauty to this monument, that a remedy may present itself for that which I consider to be, to say the least of it, a most unjustifiable proceeding.

The monument, which is fully described by Hutchins, in his History of Dorset, as "a very lofty, noble, and superb one, of white marble, railed with iron," had till recently the appearance as in the enclosed hasty sketch.



On the top, between two urns, an escutcheon encircled by the Garter, containing the arms of Holles, Duke of Newcastle.* Over all a ducal coronet, and on a cushion above it a ducal cap, motto—SPES AVDACES ADJVVAT. Under the curtain are three cherubim's heads, and below these, the effigies of Lord Holles, in a robe of loose drapery, and in a recumbent posture, his right elbow leaning upon a cushion. On the outside of the monument, the effigy on the right side, is that of a boy, and on the left, that of an angel mourning. Below the effigy, are the arms, supporters, and motto of Lord

* Denzil Lord Holles, by Dorothy Ashley, his first wife, had an only son, Francis, who succeeded his father in the barony. He died March 1, 1689-90, and was succeeded by his only son Denzil, the third Baron Holles, who died in his nineteenth year, in 1694, when that honour became extinct, and the estates devolved upon his heir-at-law, John Holles, fourth Earl of Clare, who having married Margaret, daughter and coheiress of Henry Cavendish, second Duke of Newcastle, deceased 1691; was on May 14, 1694, created Marquis of Clare, and third Duke of Newcastle. He caused the Holles Monument to be erected in St. Peter's Church, in 1699, and dying in 1711, s. p. m., his honours, notwithstanding the panoply of armorial glory displayed in this marble memorial, also became extinct.

Holles, with a baron's coronet. In a compartment on the base are two inscribed columns, that on the right in Latin, and that on the left in English.

The monument of such a man as Denzil Lord Holles, is, I think it will be admitted, of more than local interest; perhaps, indeed, I should not go too far, if I said of national interest. Lord Holles is known as a man noble and illustrious in descent. In the reign of King James the First he represented Dorchester in parliament; and married Dorothy, daughter and heiress of Sir Francis Ashley, of Dorchester. He was created a peer April 20, 1661, and was honoured by representing his sovereign at several foreign courts; was a faithful counsellor to his prince, a patriot to his country, and a Christian towards God. He died in the eighty-second year of his age, Feb. 17, 1679-80, and was buried in this church on April 10, 1680.* His wife was also buried here.

Now, of this monument, I confess, I with pain observe it is intended to re-erect it in part only! Will it be believed that it is contemplated to set aside the pillars, the top, the urns, the curtain, and the cherubims' heads, because the omission pleases the taste of several gentlemen who have decided thereon? On the contrary, I consider it of great importance that the whole should be re-erected, and not thus mutilated by way of "improvement." A difference of opinion might possibly occur on the score of "improvement," for *quot homines, tot sententiæ*, and, in my humble opinion, the omissions apparently decided on would anything but merit that name.

Another argument for its complete restoration is, that, I am credibly informed, there is a rent-charge of two guineas per annum, derivable from the estate known as Holles Froome, near Dorchester, formerly the property of Lord Holles, reserved and payable for the cleaning and maintaining of this fine monument.

One word on "the right" to mutilate monuments. It might as well be said that the parties are equally empowered to take from, or add, at their will and pleasure, to any monument in the church, according to their taste from time to time; unless it is contended, which it would be idle to do, that the lapse of time since its erection would give them that right. I trust, therefore, that the parties in authority, who have ordered the omissions, will, on consideration, agree with me that the monument ought to be reinstated, as originally designed and planned by the sculptor, who was surely the best judge of what was a becoming background for his own work; and that such an instance of bad taste may not mar the, in other respects, vast improvements to one of the finest and best-built churches of our county.

Dorchester, Feb. 11. JOHN GARLAND.

* The sermon preached at his funeral by the Rev. Samuel Rayner, then rector of St. Peter's, contains copious biographical details of Lord Holles. It was published by William Churchill, bookseller in Dorchester, in 1680, 4to., but is now of considerable rarity.

THE LAST OF THE COURT FOOLS?

Said Effendi, distinguished by the appellation of Mussahib, or Imperial Buffoon, who had served in that capacity four Sultans, and who notwithstanding his very advanced age, was frequently commanded into the presence of the present Sultan, to exercise his talent in smart sayings, and perform the antics of his office, which the venerable old gentleman generally did with remarkable agility, died at Constantinople on the 3rd instant, at the age of 121 years and seven months.

COMPENSATION OF MAGAZINE WRITERS.

A correspondent of the Aberdeen Journal states of his own knowledge, the following are the sums paid to writers, by the proprietors of the periodicals named.

We, ourselves, receive from Chambers's Journal, twenty-one shillings per page, and for the continuous Tales in the serial, a guinea and a half per page is paid; in a page of Chambers there are about 1373 words. In a page of the Leisure Hour, there are usually 1120 words, and for that number, the Religious Tract Society pays fifteen shillings. For a page containing about 1250 words, Eliza Cook used to pay us a guinea; and Charles Dickens, Household Words, still pays that sum for a page of not more than 1050 words. For the much smaller pages of Tait's, Sharpe's, Bentley's, and the new New Monthly, half a guinea each is paid; while for pages of about the same size, Blackwood, and the Dublin University, pay double that price. For reviews, the Athenæum pays half a guinea; while the Critic and the Literary Gazette, pay seven shillings per column. The Quarterlies pay their contributors at rates varying from eight to sixteen guineas per sheet of sixteen pages.

STALL BOOKS.—In the Cambridge list of Wranglers appears the name of — Tebay, B A., of St. John's College. He was formerly a labourer at Preston, but an old book purchased at a stall impelled him onward into mathematical studies, in which his ability becoming known to several gentlemen of that town, they sent him to College, where his present position renders them due honour.

VERSE VERSUS PROSE.—Her Majesty on the recommendation of Lord Palmerston has conferred on Mr. Samuel Lover, well known for his Irish Songs and Stories, an annual pension of 100*l.*; and has granted another of 50*l.*, chargeable upon the Irish civil list, to Mr. John Dalton, of Dublin, the author of several Irish historical works, including the Army List of King James the Second; the latter not yet completed.

The Fifth volume of Current Notes, with Index, in extra cloth boards, uniform with the prior volumes; may now be had, price THREE SHILLINGS.

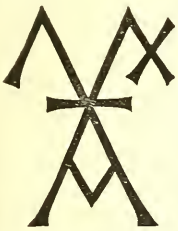
Subscribers are respectfully reminded that their subscriptions for the forthcoming twelve months which are now due, can be forwarded in Postage Stamps.

WILLIS'S CURRENT NOTES.

No. LXIII.] "Takes note of what is done—
By note, to give and to receive."—SHAKESPEARE. [MARCH, 1856.

EARLY MERCHANTS' MARKS.

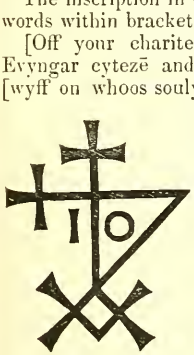
The following two examples of Merchants' marks are from rubbings of Sepulchral memorials in the London Churches.



Is from the Flemish brass of Andrew Evyngar and family 1536, in the Church of All-hallows, Barking. On this brass are two other shields, the dexter charged with the arms of the Merchant Adventurers Company, barry nebulé of six, *arg.* and *azure;* a chief quarterly *gules* and *or;* the first and fourth quarters, a lion passant-guardant of the fourth. On the second and third, two roses of the third, barbed *vert.* The sinister shield bears the arms of the Salters Company, per chevron *az.* and *gules,* three sprinkling salts *argent.*

The inscription in old English raised characters; the words within brackets being erased.

[Off your charite pray for the sowls] of Andrew Evyngar cytezē and salter of London: and Ellyn hys [wyff on whoos soulys ihesu haue m'cy amē.]



In the church of St. Olave, Hart Street, on a mural brass, the device marked on the representation of a bale of wool; with the following inscription.

John Orgone and Ellyne his wife.
As I was so be ye.
As I am, you shall be.
That I gane that I haue.
That I spent, that I had.
Thus I end all my coste
That I leffte, that I loste, 1584.

Lee Road, Blackheath, March 8. J. J. H.

TOMB OF HOMER.—The Sieur de Grun, a Dutchman in the Russian service, employed in searching for antiquities in the islands of the Archipelago, wrote to a friend early in 1772, that he had discovered in that of Nio, the tomb of Homer, who was always supposed to have died there. That he found a Greek inscription on the sepulchre which contained the skeleton of that poet, the most celebrated of all antiquity, but that it immediately crumbled to dust on being exposed to the air. He had also made many other discoveries of tombs and coins in the islands of Naxio and Milo, as in that of Nio.

Wisbeach, March 7. M. S. F.

INEDITED LETTER OF SIR WALTER SCOTT.

I forward you another letter* addressed by Sir Walter Scott to "James Ellis, Esq., Otterbourne, by Hexham, Northumberland," perhaps not so interesting as the last, but still worth preserving. The volume, edited by Ellis, and dedicated to Scott, has the following title—

Poetry, Fugitive and Original, by the late Thomas Bedingfield, Esq., and Mr. George Pickering, with Notes and some Additional Pieces, by a Friend, [i.e. Ellis.] Collecta revirescent. Newcastle, 1815, 8vo.

Many kind thanks, my dear Sir, for Pickering and Bedingfield's poems, which I think greatly more valuable from being mingled with your own, which are completely fitted to rank with them, and you know they stand high in my estimation. I think you have made a very acceptable present to the literary world, and feel myself much flattered in standing godfather to the volume. It is executed in a manner creditable to the Newcastle press, and without errors, which is equally honourable to the editor and printer. The literary anecdotes are very interesting, and will be the means of preserving to posterity the memory of these two ingenious men, which must otherwise have perished with the generation in which they flourished. You were fortunate in the opportunity of knowing them, and they not less so, in being known to one whose kindred talents have enabled him to preserve their fame.

The Border Antiquities must be given up, for I don't think the publishers have taken the thing by the right

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* In reference to the letter printed in Current Notes, pp. 4-5, Mr. White, it appears to me, is under a mistake, Current Notes, p. 14, in supposing that Sir Walter made a slip respecting the lines on the North Tyne. The lines to which allusion is made are now before me, having been printed in 1850, by Mr. Fenwick, from the manuscript in Mr. Ellis's autograph. The tract is entitled—Dialogue between the North and South Tyne Rivers. This Dialogue is the joint production of the late Dr. Shepherd, Preacher at Gray's Inn, and the late Miss Davidson, who in 1817 had a friendly controversy on the respective merits, in point of beauty and association of the two streams.

As far as I know, the other poem, edited by Mr. Adamson, and entitled—The Marriage of the Coquet and the Alwine, is still anonymous. The Editor observes—the author of this poem is not positively known, but report attributes it to two different gentlemen, of whom each is equally well known in the county of Northumberland. The names of these two individuals I do not feel myself at liberty to mention here, as by assigning it to any one without certain information on the subject, I might, unintentionally, subtract from the merit of the real composer.

E. H. A.

handle, making the numbers far too large and miscellaneous. I have got a work for your acceptance—The Lord of the Isles—but I wait for the royal 8vo., which will appear in a fortnight.

I have just got from Mr. Bell the inaugural speeches at the opening of the Society of Antiquaries,* which shew much taste and spirit. I have thoughts of going south this spring; perhaps, if I do not come down by sea, a mode of travelling to which I am rather partial, I may have an opportunity of being present at a meeting. I have often thought that if Antiquarian Societies would bestow some expense and time in causing fair copies to be transcribed from curious old papers and records, they would render their associations of most material use to history. About fifty years ago, an old Scotch gentleman, the Laird of Macfarlane, who chanced to be a keen genealogist and antiquary, employed an amanuensis in making a collection of this kind. The volumes thus compiled were afterwards purchased by our Faculty of Advocates, and are in their fine library; and what points out the extreme value of such a collection, many of the originals from which they were copied have even in the comparative short space of time, fallen aside, or been destroyed; so that these copies are now the only source to which we can resort for the curious information which they contained. Perhaps, the Antiquarian Society of the North may be induced at one time or other to take the matter under consideration?

Sometime since, I wrote you a long letter, which I hope came safe to hand. Mrs. Scott sends her kind compliments to Mrs. Ellis. Our eldest boy, Walter,† whom you remember at Otterbourne, has had the small pox, or something very like it, and thereby made himself the town-talk, for he was in infancy both vaccinated and inoculated. He has now got them well over, but the alarm prevented me writing this letter. The circumstance of the small-pox, if such the disease be, reviving like one of Ariosto's Enchanted Champions after it was supposed fairly slain, is a little startling. But as vaccination was then only new, it is possible the boy may not have had the right kind, and that the subsequent inoculation may not have taken effect, which sometimes happens; or, the disorder may have been only a violent chicken-pox, and not the real variolous eruption.

Once more, my dear Sir, my grateful thanks and best wishes attend you, and

I am very much,
Your much obliged and faithful servant,
Edinb. January 19, 1815. WALTER SCOTT.

* Scott was elected an Honorary Member of the Newcastle-upon-Tyne Society of Antiquaries on April 7, 1813; several unpublished letters of Scott's in reference to his joining this Society, and the Border Minstrelsy, in the Editor's possession, will appear in Current Notes.

† Scott's only son, born Oct. 28, 1801. He adopted the military profession, and was a Major in the 15th Hussars, when Sir Walter died Sept. 21, 1832, whom he succeeded in the Baronetcy. He became the Lieutenant-Colonel of his regiment, May 31, 1839, and served some years in India; on his return homeward he died at sea, off the Cape of Good Hope, Feb. 8, 1847. Dying without issue, the baronetcy became extinct.

SCOTT'S WAVERLEY NOVELS QUESTIONED.

In Notes and Queries, there appeared recently certain letters in which an attempt was made to discredit Sir Walter Scott's right to be considered Author of what are usually denominated, the Waverley Novels. This would be amusing enough were there not involved in it an imputation on the memory of the truly great and good man of the most serious description. In assuming Scott to be the author of Moredun, the concoctor of that eccentric and unequal production did not touch his moral character. People might say, and say with truth, that it was unworthy of his pen—but that was all: whereas, the story now told just comes to this, that Scott appropriated for his own benefit the works of others.

What is said? Why, that Thomas Scott wrote the whole or best part of the novels prior to Rob Roy; and that in particular he was the author of The Antiquary. What is the proof of this wondrous statement? An alleged letter in the *Quebec Herald*, of July, 1820. It has the date of December—but no year. It has neither signature nor address. The party who was the recipient is represented as dead; who sent it is not disclosed; and where it was found—whether in New York or Quebec—is concealed. In this precious production, Thomas Scott is made to declare that he was the author of The Antiquary. It is asserted that the writer had seen the original manuscript in full in Thomas Scott's hand-writing.

An anonymous communication of this sort affords no evidence whatever. A court of law would dismiss it at once, and common sense rejects it as worthless. Examine the matter, and see how the thing stands. Firstly, Was ever such a letter in existence, and if so, where is it now? Secondly, Who was the writer, and to whom was it addressed? Thirdly, What was the date—that is to say, the year in which it was written? Fourthly, Where is the alleged manuscript of The Antiquary in Thomas Scott's autograph? In the next place, assume that Thomas Scott made such a statement, was it done seriously or in jest—was it over his cups, or was any body else present? The paymaster, as Thomas Scott is styled, was a fellow of infinite humour—full of frolic and fun.

Like the late excellent Peter Robertson (Eheu ! !) he could not resist a joke; and to mystify a Yankee—could there be a greater treat? Sir Walter, at the dinner at which the secret of his authorship was made public, desired Robertson to announce himself as the murderer of Begbie. Even very grave personages con-

descended to amuse themselves in this way. Thus Baron Hume, at a party where Scott was present, rose, to the astonishment of all, and said—Gentlemen, there has been a burden on my mind for many years, which I now will try to remove. You all have heard of the Great Unknown. I am he! The countenance of Scott, upon this occasion, was most amusing. Like a boy, he did not know, as my informant said, whether "to greet or to laugh;" and Hume said, it would be easily seen now who wrote Waverley.

Before leaving "The Antiquary," I may mention a circumstance connected with its publication, which might give rise to another claimant for its authorship. The late Lord Kennedder—then William Erskine—was frequently employed by the legal house where I was acquiring professional knowledge. Upon one occasion, a clerk called upon him late in the day with papers. Erskine was at dinner, and as there was something to communicate verbally, the young man was shewn into the office. Some time elapsed, and the youth getting weary, he looked about him, and beheld, to his astonishment, two or three sheets of the novel, then advertised for publication, corrected in the well-known hand of Erskine. Upon returning to the office, he mentioned what he had seen, and never doubted that 'The Antiquary' was the veritable production of the learned lawyer. Suppose, after the lapse of years, a letter had been found bearing date, signature, and address, detailing all this, would it not have been better evidence of Erskine's authorship than allegations, founded on an unsigned, undated, and unaddressed piece of paper, said to have turned up in America.

Sir Walter's title is sustained by the original manuscript being extant, bearing his corrections, and purchased in 1831 by Captain Basil Hall for forty-two pounds. What is the answer to this startling fact? Why, that Scott "thought nothing of transcribing even where no particular object was to be gained by doing so," and that when "he got books to review, he copied the extracts sooner than *cut* them out in the usual way." No doubt he did not *mutilate* books as some vandals do, because he was a true lover of literature—a *bibliomaniac* who had no compassion on those who tear out leaves and prints; but that for the purpose of imposture, he would sit down, re-copy a long manuscript, and apparently correct it, is a proposition too monstrous to be believed by any one in possession of his senses.

The original manuscripts of most of the novels in Scott's autograph are still extant. The manuscript of Waverley, not quite perfect, is by the donation of James Hall, Esq., in the Library of the Faculty of Advocates. The corrections are numerous, and some of the altered passages curious.

Another objection is, that it was not easy to "see how Sir Walter could possibly have written them (the novels) *in the time*," as in the year 1814 "he wrote the Lord of the Isles; the voluminous Life and *Works* of Swift, 19 volumes; Essays in an Encyclopædia; the curious Memorie of the Sommervilles, and Rowland's Letting off the Humours of Blood." No doubt the mere *transcribing* the Works of Swift would be a serious business. Surely the critic does not mean that Sir Walter really wrote the works of Jonathan Swift, D.D., or the Memorie of the Sommervilles, or "Rowland's Letting off the Humours of Blood." Although published in 1814, the notes upon the Life of Swift were the result of many years' previous research. A couple of hours would suffice for the preface to Rowland, and as many days for the short prefix to the Sommerville Memoir. As to his transcribing volume after volume, Sir Walter must have had very extraordinary fancies, if he indulged in such unnecessary labour. Copying Swift, however, is just as probable as re-transcribing 'The Antiquary.'

In conclusion, I may be allowed to mention that, to those who knew him, the mere declaration of Scott was sufficient. There never was a more truthful or worthy man. I never met with an individual so entirely free from those little, dirty jealousies usually so degrading in literary men. He envied no one—if he could aid a meritorious author, he invariably did so. He acknowledged at once the information he procured from his friends. The sources from whence he derived his stories are candidly disclosed. That his brother gave his assistance in the same way as Train and others did, we have from his own pen; but furnishing materials for a pudding is one thing, making it another.

I had the honour of being on pretty intimate terms with Sir Walter from 1817, until his last departure to the Continent. During the sitting of the Court of Session, a day rarely occurred without my conversing with him before the Division sat. I had every means of forming a correct opinion of his character; and I most conscientiously declare that I never knew a more kindhearted, upright, and generous being, or one on whose assertions I could more implicitly place confidence.

Edinburgh, March 8. JAMES MAIDMENT.

The monument on the Calton Hill, to Robert Burns, the Ayrshire bard, by a recent vote of the Edinburgh Town Council, the Lord Provost giving the casting vote; is to be moved to another point on the same eminence, that on its site Trinity College church may be re-erected. The church stood formerly in the valley spanned by the North Bridge, but was removed to make way for the railroad and station Every stone was duly reserved, and the building is to be restored exactly as before, save that, instead of occupying a position in a vale, it will now be placed upon a hill.

The Museum at Carisbrooke Castle, of Isle of Wight antiquities, is now open to the public; it occupies three rooms in the castle, but has already been plundered of several rare and valuable coins. This could not have happened under an efficient keeper.

DERIVATION OF BUT AND BEN.

Many of the readers of Current Notes, must have been gratified by the interesting exposition of the origin and application of these words, by Mr. Brockie, of South Shields, in the January number.

To us Scotch who have been hearing 'Todlin but, Todlin ben,' both said and sung ever since the time we were able to 'todle our lane,' it seems strange that Mr. Brockie should have been obliged to draw the ground plan of a Scotch cottage, in order to make these words quite intelligible to our friends besouth the Tweed.

Though the origin of these words is correctly given by Mr. Brockie, yet the general reader will not perceive that but and ben are simply abbreviations for be-out and be-in, or by-out and by-in. To gang ben, is to go by-in, and to gang but, is to go by-out. Their Saxon equivalents were butan and binnan.

Mr. Brockie's concluding remarks are however fitted to mislead; our Saxon ben can have no affinity with the Latin *pen-us, penetral, penates,* etc. Whatever be the origin of that interesting group of words, they manifestly cannot be cognate with the word in question; and neither in meaning nor in origin can it possibly coincide with the Hebrew *penī-mah* (פְּנִימָה). The latter word corresponds exactly to the *enōpia* (ἐνωπια) of Homer, each being derived from a word meaning *face*, and each denoting strictly, the wall of a room or court *facing* the door.

The Scotch 'dresser' too (Fr. *dressoir*), must not be confounded with the old Scotch 'bink.' The former, but certainly not the latter, may be "stored with crockery of all sorts." Bink has been softened into the English "bench," and was quite synonymous with it in meaning.

Montrose Academy. S.

COINAGE OF EDWARD THE FIRST.

On examining my collection of early English coins for any varieties to Mr. Haswell's list, I find the following, which may be deserving of notice—

ЄDV REX ANGL' DNS HYB. m.m., a very small cross.
CIVI TAS LON DON m.m., as above.
ЄDW. R ANGL DNS HYB Star of five points on breast.
CIVI TAS CЄS TRIЄ
ЄDW R'. ANGL DNS HYB No star on breast.
VILL KYN GЄS TON
ЄDW- R .ANGL DNS hYB
CIVI TAS DVR ЄMЄ

The Є on obverse has three pellets punched on the three points.

ЄDW· R ANGL DNS HYB Quatrefoil on breast.
CIVI TAS ЄBO RACI

Norwich, March 5. GODDARD JOHNSON.

As Mr. Haswell of Nottingham, in Current Notes, p. 15, invites your readers to add to his list there given, I enclose some notices of a few not named by him.

LONDON.

1. ЄDW R' ANGL' IIN HYB
Rev, as no. 1. m.m., a cross. Varieties, and others under different towns, occur with the contraction after the R' only.
2. ЄDWA R ANGL DNS HYB m.m., a cross. [Edw. II. ?]
Rev., as no. 4. The letters are of a more perfect formation than hitherto.
3. As no. 1, Saxon A in the legend, and instead of a dotted circle around the bust, it is a plain thin line. Worn punches appear to have been used in the dies.
4. As no. 15, but on obv ANGL'
5. As no. 2, but the limb of cross on rev., following CIVITAS terminates in a spike.

In one specimen the N's have no perceptible middle line, thus, II; and on others the leaning to left or right seems quite arbitrary.

BERWICK.

6. As no. 21; but on obv., ЄDWA R etc. [Edw. II. ?]
On rev., a Roman E formed by I and three small wedge-like additions in front.
7. As no. 6, but large letters.

CANTERBURY.

8. As no. 31. Obv., ЄDWA R. [Edw. II. ?]
9. As no. 31; on rev., CAN COR.

DURHAM.

10. As no. 51. Rev., CIV ITAS DVN ЄNЄ
The T appears like an inverted L.
11. As no. 44; Obv., ЄDWA R [Edw. II. ?]
12. As no. 43; Obv., ЄDWA R [Edw. II. ?]
Rev., CIVI TAS DVN ЄLM The upper limb of cross on the left side forms a Crosier. This is said to be the distinctive mark of Bishop Kellow, who held that see, 1313-16; the obverse legend being an exception to the accredited style of Edward II.

ST. EDMUNDSBURY.

13. As no. 54. Obv., ЄDWA R [Edw. II. ?]
14. As no. 56.
Rev., VIL LAS ЄDLI VDI

KINGSTON-UPON-HULL.

15. As no. 68; no star on king's breast.
Rev., VIL' KYN GЄS TON

YORK.

16. As no. 81. Quatrefoil in centre of cross on reverse, having a pellet in centre.

DUBLIN.

17. As no. 92; on Obv., ANGL'.

WATERFORD.

18. As no. 98; on Obv., ANGL'.

CORK.

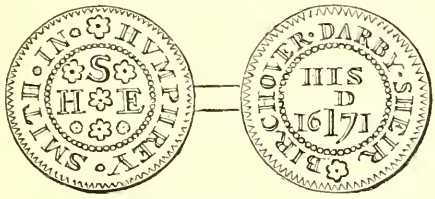
19. ЄDW R' ANGL'. DNS HIN'S

Edinb. March 8. W. F. M.

DERBYSHIRE TRADERS' TOKENS.

Anxiously busied in preparing for publication a detailed, and, so far as practicable, an illustrated descriptive list of the Tokens of the seventeenth century, issued by traders in the towns and villages in Derbyshire, I wish to avail myself of an intimation in Current Notes, that I am solicitous of any aid the collectors or possessors of such Tokens may be willing to render me, and shall be most happy in receiving their communications.

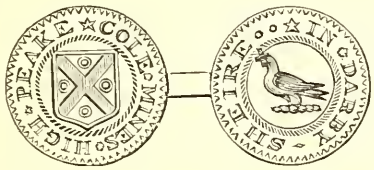
Some of the most interesting will be represented in woodcuts; of the manner in which these will be executed, I forward two blocks, in order that those by whose kindness I may be assisted, will be at once assured of the attention which will be paid to their contributions.



HVMPHREY. SMITH. IN.—In the field, H. E. S.

Rev., BIRCHOVER. DARBY-SHEIR.—HIS 1D 1671.

The other is of considerable rarity, and is figured in Snelling's View of the Copper Coinage, 1766, folio, pl. iv. fig. 2.



COLE-MINES. HIGH PEAKE.—Arms in field, Shalcrosse of Shalcrosse.

Rev., IN DARBY-SHEIRE.—Crest, Shalcrosse of Shalcrosse.

Already descriptions of Tokens of the following towns have been received, but the numbers appended to each place are considered as much below the aggregate of the pieces pertaining to Derbyshire: any aid therefore, if promptly tendered, will be gratefully acknowledged—

Alfreton	2	Chapel in le Frith	1	Higham	2
Ashburne	7	Crich	1	High Peak	1
Ashford	1	Derby	28	Repton	1
Bakewell	2	Dore	1	Stony Middleton	1
Belper	2	Dronfield	1	Stanton	1
Birchover	1	Duffield	2	Tideswell	5
Bolsover	3	Eckington	2	Winster	1
Bonsall	3	Hartington	1	Wirksworth	7
Brailsford	1	Hartshorne		Youlgrave	1
Brassington	1	Lea End	1		
Chesterfield	7				

The issuer of the Hartington Token was a THOMAS BATEMAN; of this I am particularly desirous of obtaining either the Token, or an impression in gutta-percha or wax, for the purpose of engraving.

Gateshead, March 5. W. H. BROCKETT.

WANDERINGS OF GENIUS.

When Ladies have raised for themselves a great reputation by their literary labours, it becomes very interesting to trace the different localities to which during their sojourn in this world, their souls have led their bodies. In this feeling I forward some notices of the wanderings of that talented spirit, Miss Jane Porter, authoress of Scottish Chiefs, Thaddeus of Warsaw, and other esteemed works. They are derived from her correspondence,* and such facts are useful in biography.

In 1799, she was at Grantham in Lincolnshire, probably staying with Mrs. Rawlinson. Part of the year she resided with her mother, in Gerard Street, Soho.

September. 1800, in Dover Street; in January, 1801, at Camberwell: in May, at Lochbay; and in August, at Grove House, Hampstead.

In August, 1802, at Grantham. In 1803, in Manchester Street, Manchester Square. Newport, in the Isle of Wight; and from August 25, to September 16, at Rochester.

At Bath, in February and March, 1804. During the months of October, November and December of that year, and till April, 1805, at Lasbury, near Alnwick, in Northumberland, the residence of the Rev. Percival Stockdale, also an author.

1806. In May at the Palace. At Child's Place. In 1807, in Park Street; and the Palace.

In 1808, Thames Ditton; and in January, in the following year, at Bath. In April, 1810, at Rochester; and May, 1811, at Oswald's near Canterbury.

In 1812, her home was at Thames Ditton; then at Esher. In May, 1813, in Cavendish Square; and in the following October, at Huntercombe. In 1814, at Ryde, in the Isle of Wight; and in July, 1815, at Brighton.

Early in 1816, at No. 5, Manchester Street, Manchester Square. In July, in Portswood Park; and in October, at Nursted House, Hants.; and later, at Sunning Hill, Berks.

In 1817, in Seymour Street; in 1818, in Upper Berkeley Street; in Oct. 1819, at Huntercombe; and in November, at Beddington in Surrey.

During the first three months of 1820, at Brighton; at Dover, in August; and in September, at Calais and Paris.

At Clifton, in August, 1821; and during May and

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* Sir Robert Ker Porter, the distinguished painter and traveller, and his talented sisters, Jane and Anna Maria Porter, were cousins of the late Mr. John Adamson, the biographer of Camoens; among whose papers are very numerous letters. It is possible, a selection, with other correspondence of highly eminent literary characters, will be published by his son, the Rev. E. H. Adamson. ED.

June, 1822, at York Place. At Carisbrook, in September and October, 1823.

In June, 1824, at Ryde; and in August, at Tunbridge Wells. In 1825, at Long Ditton; and in Orchard Street In October, 1826, at the Priory near Wingham, Kent. At Ripon, in July, 1827; and in October, at Coughton, in Warwickshire.

At St. Petersburg, in July, 1828; and in October, at the Cottage at Long Ditton. In May, 1829, at Esher.

In May, 1834, at Bristol; in September, 1835, at Shirley; and later, at Coughton. In March, 1836, at Woolwich; and in 1839, at Coughton.

In July, 1840, at Esher; and in November, at Coughton. In March, 1841, at the Priory, near Acton, in Middlesex. In August, 1842, at Spencer Lodge, Wandsworth; and in October, at Brixton.

P.

QUERIES RESPECTING JOHN WESLEY.

I have had just pointed out a passage in Current Notes, November, 1854, p. 90, at which it is asserted that John Wesley "constantly carried in his breast a crucifix;" and moreover, that he 'pirated' certain portions of the productions of Dr. Young and Mrs. Rowe, for which he made restitution. by agreeing on Feb. 8, 1744, to pay fifty-pounds. My object is not to deny these allegations, but respectfully to ask for the authority upon which they are made? I mean of course, the *very* terms by B., and not a merely general reference to the memoranda of Dodsley, such appears in the leading paragraph of the article in which the above allegations appear. H.

Samuel Wesley, the father of John Wesley, published in 1703, a tract on the Dissenters' Education in their Private Academies; this was printed in 4to., and occasioned a considerable controversy. The whole of the tracts so published, were collected by Sir Thomas Clutterbuck, and bound in a volume. His manuscript notes throughout evinced his intimate connection with the Wesley family; and in one of these notes, it was stated—John Wesley, though educated as a Divine of the Church of England, always carried a crucifix about him.

In December 1835, many original assignments of copyrights from various authors to the Dodsleys; the property of the late Mr. George Nicol, the bookseller, were dispersed by auction by Mr. R. H. Evans, in Pall Mall. The article in Current Notes entitled Literary Remuneration, was constituted of Notes made at that sale, from the original papers; a reference to the sale catalogue of that day, yet possessed by Mr. Evans, in Albany Street, Regent's Park, would show who was the purchaser of that agreement, and possibly where it is yet extant, but would fail in invalidating the fact of the piracy as stated in the article referred to by our correspondent. The agreement in question was signed by John Wesley and witnessed.

Mr. Herbert Ingram, proprietor of the Illustrated London News, was on the 7th inst. returned member for the town of Boston, his native place. The numbers were: Ingram, 521. Adams, 296. Majority, 225.

TREACHERY OF RUSSIA, FIFTY YEARS SINCE.

At this juncture, when a repetition of the aggressions of Russia upon the territories of Turkey has occasioned a war, the result of which has been greatly to the disadvantage of the former, the following extract from Hughes' Travels in Sicily, Greece, and Albania, 1820, Vol. II., pp. 180-181, will no doubt be perused with much interest; at the same time that it affords a clear and explicit notice of our celebrated naval expedition that, half a century since, sailed against Constantinople, the motives and conduct of which were then so erroneously considered and misrepresented.

Carlton Club, March 8. S.

Russia, in all her enterprises and political schemes, ever keeps her eye fixed upon the possessions of Turkey: she is also aware that she never can gain her point unless England be willing to assist or unable to oppose her. In the year 1806, that great northern power saw a favourable opening in affairs, of which she endeavoured eagerly to take advantage. Knowing that England was alarmed at the preponderating influence of Bonaparte, she entered into an alliance with her offensive and defensive, and then succeeded in forcing Turkey into a contest by demands which she never would have made had she not been sure of the assistance of her new ally. At the very commencement of this war a powerful Russian army took military possession of the important provinces of Moldavia and Wallachia, and the very existence of the Turkish Empire in Europe was threatened. It was not long before England saw the ultimate aim of Russia, but she could not refuse her co-operation without a risk of throwing Alexander into the arms of Bonaparte; accordingly Admiral Duckworth received orders to advance with his fleet against the Dardanelles. That officer sent a frigate to Corfu, with an intimation to Admiral Siniavin that he expected his contingent, which was supposed to consist of about six ships of the line; instead of this, however, the Russian Admiral immediately bent the sails of nearly thirty, which, when our resident on that island observed, he instantly dispatched a confidential messenger overland, in the disguise of a Turkish dervish, to inform the British Admiral of the fact, who, upon this intelligence, made all possible expedition, whilst his Russian ally delayed his course at the isles of Hydra, Spezie, and Poros, to procure additional vessels, and to man his own. Admiral Siniavin was quite astounded when he met our fleet at the mouth of the Dardanelles, on its return from Constantinople, against which it had not fired a shot. By this circumstance, whether it may be styled a lucky incident or a masterly manœuvre, the Turkish capital was saved from that destruction to which it had been devoted by the cabinet of St. Petersburgh. Had the Russians been once permitted to anchor before Constantinople, an immense force was prepared in the Black Sea to co-operate from that quarter, and the armies on the Moldavian and Wallachian frontier were ready to pour down upon their prey. At no time before was the Crescent ever in such danger, and it may be long ere Russia shall again be able to drive her adversary so far into the toils.

The treaty of Tilsit took place soon after these events.

The pension of 25*l.* per annum, granted to the late JOSEPH HAYDN, previously to his death, has been continued to his widow.

Meister von Liesborn. Who is the painter of the pictures in the National Gallery, described in the Catalogue as Meister von Liesborn? There are several of these and very beautiful; but they are quite unnoticed in Waagen's Art Treasures, nor does he notice the works of any painter by this name in the various collections he describes. Any information, therefore, on this head would greatly oblige.

Bratton, March 4. E. B.

The appellation of the Master of Liesborn, is given by German writers to designate an unknown painter, the accredited founder of the Westphalian school; who painted the altar-piece in the Benedictine Abbey of Liesborn, near Münster, consecrated in 1465. On Napoleon's constituting the kingdom of Westphalia in 1807, the monks were dispersed, and the altar-piece then sold; the purchaser appears to have formed smaller pictures from portions; and some of these pieces were obtained by Herr Krüger of Minden, whose collection by Mr. Dyce's strong recommendation was purchased in 1854, by the government, for 2000*l*. The several pictures, noticed by our Correspondent, are but portions of the altar-piece, and their present attractive appearance is attributable to the restorative skill of Mr. Bentley. Of the Krüger pictures upwards of forty, or more than half the collection, are worthless, and consequently unfit for exhibition.

VENETIAN TRIUMPHAL COMMEMORATION.

In a letter, dated Venice, March 10, 1764, are the following particulars:—

On the 4th of this month, the Doge and Senators repaired to the balcony of the ducal Palace in the square of St. Mark; which place was crowded with spectators, most of them masked; and there was performed the usual ceremony of striking off the heads of three bulls at one blow. After this operation, a man, mounted on a kind of dragon, rose from the sea, and flew along a rope to the gallery of the Tower of St. Mark, throwing sonnets among the people as he passed. From thence he made a rapid progress, by means of another rope, to the balcony of the Doge, to whom he presented a nosegay and some verses: he afterwards mounted by the same rope to the cupola, and then returned to the sea. The two factions of the Castellans and Nicolottes afterwards amused the people with feats of equilibrity and morrice-dancing, etc. This festival, which always terminates with a firework, is celebrated in remembrance of a great Victory formerly gained by the Venetians over the Patriarch of Aquileia. It was to have been, according to custom, the 1st of this Month, but it was put off on account of the bad weather.

Newspaper Stamps. The Chancellor of the Exchequer lately stated in the House of Commons there had been a loss to the revenue of 220,000*l*., in consequence of the abolition of the newspaper stamps. The return made on the 3rd inst. of the aggregate number of penny Newspaper stamps issued from July 1, to Dec. 31, 1855, shews an immense falling off. The numbers thus reduced were England, 15,498,094; Wales, 193,680; Scotland, 2,680,122; Ireland, 3,274,612; total 21,646,688.

A gold coin of Vespasian, of the year 70, memorable for the subversion of Judea, by the Romans under Titus; was found on the 25th ult., in a garden at Inveresk, seven miles from Edinburgh.

IMP. CAESAR VESPASIANVS AVG. Head laureated.

Rev., COS ITER. TR. P. Seated figure, in right hand a branch; in her left hand a caduceus.

Hares at Easter. Blount observes, They have an ancient custom at Coleshill, in Warwickshire, that if the young men of the town can catch a hare, and bring it to the parson of the parish before ten of the clock on Easter Monday, the parson is bound to give them a calf's head, and a hundred of eggs for their breakfast, and a groat in money. Can any antiquarian reader of Current Notes point out to what is the origin of this singular custom?

Warwick, March 5. F. T. M.

Belfry Rhymes. The following lines are in Gulval Church, Cornwall. The frames of the Bells bear date 1600.

Good Sirs! our meaning is not small,
That God to Praise assemblies call;
And warn the sluggard, when at home
That he may with devotion come
Unto the Church and joyn in prayer;
Of Absolution take his share.
Who hears the bells, appears betime,
And in his seat against we chime.
Therefore I'd have you not to vapour,
Nor blame ye Lads that use the Clapper
By which are scar'd the fiends of hell,
And all by virtue of a Bell.

Penzance, March 6. W.

MINE HOST OF THE BLUE BOAR.

The following instance of longevity may possibly be deemed worthy recording in the pages of Current Notes. Mr. Joseph Howes, remembered by many here as formerly mine host of the Blue Boar and Wellington Castle Inns, lived to be the oldest inhabitant in Leicester, but more recently resided at Evington Lodge, near this town, highly respected by a large circle of friends. He died in December, 1853, aged 102.

Leicester, March 8. William Kelly.

King Richard the Third, the last of the Plantagenets slept at the Blue Boar Inn, on the night of August 21, 1485, the night preceding the memorable conflict at Bosworth Field. It would seem, however, this was not the principal inn in the town; in Mr. Kelly's admirable historical papers on Royal Progresses to Leicester, he notices many interesting events as transpiring at the Angel, an inn situated between Cheapside and Gallowtree-gate, long ranking as the head hostelry, where for centuries upon the same site a long succession of noble and princely guests on occasions feasted or reposed. It was demolished at the close of 1854, and "finally disappeared from among us, even in name."

MIDDLESEX ARCHÆOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.

On the 26th ult., the London and Middlesex Archæological Society held their second evening meeting in Mr. Gambart's French Gallery, No. 121, Pall Mall. The meeting was numerously attended, and the papers read were of considerable interest. The Society, from the already printed long list of names of Members of wealth, position and worth, men of probity and talent in their several pursuits, will from the constant accession of applications and elections soon be a Legion, and outnumber several existing institutions. One thing that greatly added to the refinements of the assembly, was the unusually large number of ladies, who were introduced by the members; these appeared in the evening costume of the better class of society, and their elegance and gayness of colours refreshened the sombre, quiet and unobtrusive garb of Antiquaries, Architects, Clergy, and men of Science. After the reading of the papers was concluded, an entertainment to the ladies followed, and the evening seemed passed in full enjoyment by every one present.

Some sober calculators mooted among themselves how this entertainment was provided? because the annual contribution of Ten shillings, by each member, is not likely in the present undefined position of the Society, to go far in this matter; the Society are yet without any certified or established place of meeting; nor is it clearly understood whether the papers and communications of the Members are to be printed or not. Let these questions be determined, and many more adherents will be found. The introduction of ladies by the members will unquestionably add much to the popularity of these meetings, and conduce greatly to the appearance and elegance of the purposes of the Society; but then, some consideration must be shewn to the lady visitors, by the adding or appending translations of quotations by the learned readers of papers. The reverend author of a paper on the early British History before the landing of Julius Cæsar, finished the rounding of many of his paragraphs by quoting the language of the monkish writers, and reciting in their Latin, the facts as he found them related by the historians long ages since numbered with the dead. These passages were beyond construing by the novel or story-reading of some of the gaily-dressed evening associates of the members of this Society, and several were observed, to bow their heads and smile to one another, at the recital of so much heathen Greek to them. To be understood by all, translations must follow, or many will leave the assembly as wise as they came, or at best only half informed.

EPITAPH ON A PHYSICIAN.

Hâc sub humo, per quem tot jacuêre, jacet.

Which may be thus translated—

A grave for him is here provided,
Thro' whom so many of us lie dead.

EULOGIUM ON ENGLISH VALOUR.

The following lines are from England, a Poem, by R. White, Esq., of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, recently printed in that town for distribution among the Author's friends:

Full throbs mine ardent breast to learn,
That in each sea throughout the world,
Surrounding nations may discern
Aloft thy naval flag unfurl'd.
So while above the ocean wide
Thou dost maintain supreme command,
Thy meanest son has cause of pride
That he was born in such a land!

Thy blood within thy people's veins
Their ancient warlike lineage shows,
Which all its former force retains,
And with renewing freshness flows;
Brave is the tide as when of old
It urged to flight the arrowy show'r
That with effect so deadly told
At Cressy and at Agincourt.

The battles which at sea were won
With Nelson, let our annals tell;
And those on land with Wellington
Re-echo to thy praise as well.
On Alma's heights who led the van?
Or nobler still, what battle field
May vie with that of Inkerman,
Where British valour last was seal'd?

Thy dauntless sons this spirit nerves
All rude aggression to withstand,
And hence thy name their zeal preserves
Inviolate on sea or land.
Thy standard floats triumphantly
O'er climes that earliest hail the light;
And regions homage pay to thee
Where latest fall the shades of night.

LAFROWDA. What is the meaning of this ancient appellation of St. Just, in Cornwall? When was the alteration in the names made, and are there any other instances of similar changes in this county? W.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

The articles, Prince Charles's Passage through Leicester, 1604; Oxfordshire Historical Memoranda; the Corbel in Brechin Cathedral; and Memoir of the late Dr. W. H. Scott, of Edinburgh, will appear in our next number.

The Fifth volume of Current Notes, with Index, in extra cloth boards, uniform with the prior volumes, may now be had, price THREE SHILLINGS.

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WILLIS'S CURRENT NOTES.

No. LXIV.] "Takes note of what is done—
By note, to give and to receive."—SHAKESPEARE. [APRIL, 1856.

PRINCE CHARLES'S SOJOURN AT LEICESTER.

In 1604, Charles, Duke of York, subsequently the unfortunate King Charles the First; then a puny unhealthy child of four years of age, was brought to London from Scotland in the care of Lord Fyvie, afterwards Earl of Dunfermline. On his way hither, he passed through Leicester, and the borough manuscripts record the following notices of his entertainment by the town authorities.

The first is a letter addressed to the Right Worshipful the Mayor, or in his absence to the Aldermen of the same.

Sr.—I ame to advertis you that on Wednesday the xvth of this instant, Duke Charles, the King's Mats. second sonne, wth my Lo: of ffyvie, Lo: Prsedent of the Sessions in Skottland, who hath charge of his Grace, entendeth to bee at Lecester, whear thaye mean to rest Thursday all day, and on Friday after dinner to goe forwards on their jornye, ffor wch cause theise are in his Mats. name to require you to make choyce of a sufficient house for the lodgine of the Dukes Grace wth the Lo: Prsedent, whear ther must be xij bedds, with all nessicaries for a kytchine, and yt their bee iij hogsheads of beare layed in the same house, for the wch you shall have satisfaction; for pewter and lininge, [linen] his Grace must bee furnished wth from you; before his cominge their shalbee one sent for the makinge of p'vision, vnto whom I would, if hee find it nedfull, he maye have your assistance. Thus, not doutinge of yor care herein, I byd you hartelie fare well,

Yor lovinge ffrend,

JOHN CRANE.

ffrom Worsop, the ix of August, 1604.

The Mayor immediately despatched a messenger to Sir William Skipwith, to procure the use of his town mansion for the Prince and his train, which being obtained, in accordance with long customary arrangements, the walls of the rooms were decorated with green boughs, and the floors strewed with rushes and green leaves, for perfume and coolness during the warm weather. Pewter and linen were borrowed, and bedding and furniture were moved to Sir Thomas Skipwith's house, from the Recorder's chamber at the Town-Hall.

The Prince arrived on Wednesday the 15th, and during his stay, the Corporation presented to him and his retinue a banquet, or as we should now term it a dessert, with several gallons of sack and other wines and a sugar-loaf. Rhenish and claret wine was presented to Mr. Grimes, who had the charge of the king's horses, and twenty shillings were given to the King's trumpeters. The Prince remained until after dinner on Friday, and then departed for Dingley.

As on former occasions the attendants on royalty evinced the disposition to make the most of their opportunity, without respect to the rights of property, for these manuscripts record that after their departure the Corporation had to pay "for certain Flanders fruit dishes, which with divers sorts of banquetting dishes were sent to the Duke, but of which fruit dishes some of them were broken,* and the rest carried away by the Duke's officers and followers." A portion of the pewter and linen that had been borrowed for the Duke's use was also abstracted by the royal attendants, of whom Scott, (Fortunes of Nigel,) quoting from the proclamations of the period, terms them "a beggarly rabble," and "an importunate crowd of disrespectful suitors." Some one with singular audacity actually stole one of the bolsters belonging to the Recorder's bed!

Leicester, April 9. WILLIAM KELLY.

* To many persons this extract from the borough records will afford much to interest them. The garniture for the bouffet and the table in England, was at this period, for the most part silver and pewter; gold and glass rarely, and both more for ornament than use. The richly embossed cream coloured ware, dishes and plates, with perforated borders, erroneously termed by most dealers, "Elizabethan ware," have no reference to that period; the English made pottery of that time, being black earthenware pots, in general use at ale houses, and commonly in domestic use—the red earthen pots, with a partial green glaze are ascribed to an earlier date. Oriental porcelain was then rarely to be found even on the tables of royalty—the deficiency was made up by importations from the continent, and the coarse stone bottle ware of Cologne; with the coarsely glazed dishes of Flanders, now more generally designated Delft ware, were brought into requisition, hence the appellation before made of "Flanders fruit dishes." By others, whose discernment has shown them the embossed ware is really not so early as the time of Elizabeth; it is asserted that they were manufactured at Stratford-le-Bow, in the reign of Anne, and hence obtained the distinction of "Queen's ware." This assertion is, however, as vague as the former, they are from the Staffordshire potteries, some of it, early in the last century; and the characteristics of the earlier fabric will be perceptible by the dark coarse colour of the clay. It was not till the aspiring energy of Josiah Wedgwood, so far improved the fineness and colour of this cream coloured manufacture that soon after her marriage he obtained the patronage of Queen Charlotte, when in compliment to her he named it "Queen's ware," and multiplied an infinity of articles in pottery of all denominations, forms and sizes, for the most part impressed with his name.—ED.

OXFORDSHIRE HISTORICAL MEMORANDA.

A correspondent (G. H. Barnett, Esq.) having kindly forwarded some original papers pertaining to the manor of Glympton, for selection of memoranda for "Current Notes," the following extracts have been considered as affording some interest.

The first, an autograph letter of Sir John Sedley, Knt. and Bart., sheriff of Kent, 1621. He married Elizabeth, only daughter and at length heir of Sir Henry Savile, Knt., Provost of Eton College. The letter addressed to Mr. Wheat, relates to the Sedley property in Glympton, and to an annuity on Mrs. Pollard's life, the particulars of which Sir John Lentall knoweth punctually. He adds—

Your seruaunt can giue you some notice of my howse att Aylesford* which is the only commodyous seate in England; and I am very willinge to sell itt: if a wiseman, whoe is not very auaritious vew it: I knowe he will have it. Thus commendinge my best respects vnto you, I rest your very louinge frende, JOHN SEDLEY.

This 14 Nou: Anno doī. 1633.

Charles the First, in May, 1634, issued writs to the ports and maritime counties, for the providing a fleet for maintaining the sovereignty of the Narrow Seas. This affair of the ship-money was the commencement of the King's troubles; and the writs, in 1635, were enlarged and extended to the inland as well as the maritime counties. These created a general disgust, and were everywhere opposed, although the entire sum purposed to be levied by these writs amounted but to 236,000*l.* The following is the substance of the paper addressed to the Sheriff of Oxford:

Instructions from the Privy Council to the High Sheriff of Oxford, dated from Whitehall ye 12th of August, 1635; requiring him, the Mayor, and Head officers of the Corporate Towns in Oxfordshire to assess themselves for the raising of 3500*l.*, the charges for providing a ship of 350 tons, to be furnished with men, munitions, tackle, victual, and other requisites to be set forth for the safeguard of the Seas and the defence of the Realme, at the charges of the said County. The Privy Council suggested the assessments to be thus—the Cytie of Oxford may well beare one hundred pounds; Henley, sixtie pounds; Banburie, fortie pounds; Chippinge Norton, thirtie pounds; Burford, fortie pounds; Woodstocke, twentie pounds, and the residue to be assessed upon the rest of the County, according to their judgment.

The following relates to the mischiefs caused by the conflicting powers of commanders among the Royalists.

Diuers complaints have been this day made, amongst others one by Mr. Wheat of this county, that the carts bringing in provisions of corne and other victualls for the mayntenance of the Garrison here, at Oxford, are taken for other imployments, contrary to the King's express agreement and proclamation. The cart-takers and others who it concerneth, are desired to take this into their consideration, and what preiudice this may bring to the King's most importune service at this time and in this place.

April 17, 1644. RO. HEATH.

The signature is that of Sir Robert Heath, Chief Justice, K.B., then attending upon the King. He died in 1649.

As might be supposed, the provisions and forage for the army would greatly impoverish the county, so, in the following paper, the parishes of Glympton and Kiddington declare their inability to comply with the requisition made on them.

To ye Chiefe Comander of his Maties Forces at Godstow.

Whereas we haue receiued a Warrant this present Monday from the High Constable of Wootton Hundred; These are to lett you vnderstand that since the 28th of May last we have been so ouerburdened with his Maties forces of horse and dragoons vnder the Comand of Prince Maurice, the Lord Cleeueland, the Lord Wayntworth; and last the Lord Wilmott and the Lord Wayntworth, our charges being so great for theyr entertainment, that we are vtterly disabled to prouide Sustenance for our poore families, except we may haue reliefe from some neighbouring towns which haue not quartered att this time; besides our store of wheate and mault, which shaulde haue kepte our houses till haruest, they have spent and wasted vpon theyr horses and carried away: and imediately vpon theyr departure came the parliament forces who swept the remainder. Wherefore, We do most earnestly request that we may be freed and excused from the Charge imposed upon vs by this Warrant, and so soone as God shall enable vs, we shalbe ready and willing to do the best we can for the supplieing of his maties souldiers.

A receipt, dated June 5, 1657, acknowledges twenty shillings having been paid by William Wheate, Esq. for a license for retailing wines in the parish of Glympton, in the Hundred of Woodstock. The rent for this license was for the half year ending Dec. 25, 1656. The yearly license was charged at forty shillings, receiveable by the agents for granting wine licenses, for the use of his Highness and the Common Wealth.

Tobacco during the time of the Commonwealth was, under a certain penalty, allowed to be grown in England, but at length was interdicted; the prohibition continued after the restoration, but the mandates against

* The Sedley family were seated at Aylesford, in Kent. Sir William Sedley, of the Friars in Aylesford, Knt., was created a baronet, May 22, 1611. He purchased from Sir John Gerrard, Knt., Lord Mayor of London, 1601, the manor of Southfleet; hence his son, Sir John, on inheriting both houses, was desirous of disposing of the latter. He was, however, unsuccessful, as Sir Charles Sedley, his son, was born at Aylesford in 1639. He married Catharine, daughter of John Earl Rivers, and from this marriage was an only daughter, Catharine, who became the mistress of King James the Second, eternised in Dr. Johnson's maledictory line—

And Sedley cursed the form that pleased a King.

Sir Charles Sedley, the dramatist and wit, died August 20, 1701, when the title of Aylesford and Southfleet became extinct.

Sir John Sidley, or Sedley, died August 13, 1638, probably at Southfleet. The baptismal register at Aylesford dates only from 1653.

its culture appear to have fulminated with but little effect, and the following Order from the Privy Council, addressed To our very loveing ffreind ye High Sheriffe of ye County of Oxford; will possibly be perused with some interest.

After our hearty Comendacōns, His Matie being wearied with continuated Complaints, That notwithstanding the frequent Directions and Comands of this Board from time to time (amongst others) to the Sheriffe of the County of Oxford requiring their care and industry in the destroying all the Plantacōns of Tobacco in their respective Counties (which are soe strictly grounded upon the Act of Parliament, prohibiting the Planting, setting or sowing of Tobacco in England, and his Maties proclamations) yet by renewed Informacōns, cannot but observe his Clemency abused, and the stubbourne Spirits of non-Conformists improved, And that contrary to his Royal Comands they continue in digging up new grounds, and the people resolved to persist in their disobedience of planting this yeare; which upon deliberate Consultacōn evidently appeares will tend to the great prejudice of his Maties ffoorraigne plantations and customes, and hindrance of the Navigation of this Kingdome. Of which insolence and contempt his Matie is very sensible; And therefore hath Comanded us to will and require you the now Sheriffe of the County of Oxford, That forthwith without any manner of Connivance or favour to any person whatsoever, you cause all such Tobacco soe planted, sett, sowen, curing or cured, within the said County of Oxford to be burnt, plucked up, and utterly destroyed, according as by the said Act, his Maties proclamation, and our former Letters is enioyned; And we doe also require and authorize you, and hereby Comand you to be ayding and assisting to Clement Dowle, Esq., Collector of his Maties Customes in the port of Gloucester, and to such other person or persons as hee shall thinke fitt to imploy in the destroying of such Tobacco in that County, according to the tenor of our Comission to him given in that behalfe, And so not doubting of your more than ordinary Care herein, Wee bid you farewell.

From the Court at Whitehall the 20th of June 1666.

Your very loving ffriends,

Clarendon

Ossory	Manchester	Bathe
Carlisle	Arlington	Craven
Middleton	Fitzharding	H. London
G. Carteret	Will. Morice	Jo. Berkeley
W. Coventrye		Richard Browne.

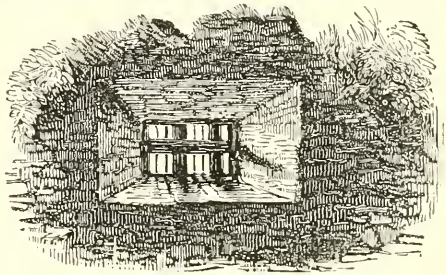
This interesting autograph document has also a perfect impression of the Sigill. Privi Con: the seal was engraved by Thomas Simon, whose memorable Petition Crown, will ever perpetuate his name.

Sir Richard Browne, Clerk of the Privy Council, was the father-in-law of John Evelyn.

CHARLES THE FIRST AT CARISBROOKE CASTLE.

Some years since I sketched the window within the ruins of Carisbrooke Castle, from which the King in 1648, vainly attempted to escape: and forward it as an illustration, with some references to contemporaries respecting that event.

Sir Thomas Herbert simply mentions that the King, from some aggravations, designed an escape, horses being provided near the castle, and a vessel made ready for his transportation, but by a corrupted corporal in the garrison took not effect.* Ashburnham appears to have suggested the King's escapement, if he would engage some person to assist him out of the castle to the waterside, where a boat would be ready to receive him; with horses at Netley Park, to convey him to the place, where a ship was provided to carry him off.† Ashburnham states the fact, that the King, by putting his head forward, instead of sideway, through the bars of the win-



dow (shewn in the vignette), mistook the way of measure, according to the rule, that where the head can pass the body may; by which error, when he attempted to pass, he stuck fast; and being in great extremity, he, with long and painful struggles, got back again without notice by any man, but him who waited to attend him, had he, by means of the window, lowered himself down. Clarendon, in his manuscripts, has two relations, one in accordance with the preceding, which was suppressed in all editions of his "History of the Rebellion," prior to 1826; the other is a totally different version; that the King had a file and a saw to enlarge the aperture for his escape, which he laboured to effect; but on resolving to go forth, discovered more persons than he suspected were privy to his purpose, and so shut the window and retired to his apartment. Clarendon here affecting to treat the King's being "stuck fast" in the window as a mere fiction ‡

Among the letters between Colonel Hammond and the Committee at Derby House, one dated April 6, 1648, refers particularly to the King's attempt about a fortnight before, and that his 'breast was so big the bar would not give him passage;' and that aqua fortis had been sent from London to assist the King in moving a bar as an obstacle. Another letter, dated April 15, de-

* Memoirs, edit. 1815, 8vo. p. 115.

† Narrative, vol. ii. pp. 124-126.

‡ Hist. of the Rebellion. Oxford, 1704, fol. vol. iii. p. 179.

tails the King's purposes with the aqua fortis; but by another, dated April 22, it is stated the aqua fortis had been spilled by the way, by accident, but that a saw, for the royal use, had been taken from a plain fat man about four o'clock on the preceding day. The time assigned for the King's escape was May-day at night, but sooner if opportunity served.

Charles remained at Carisbrooke till December the first, in that year, when, by order of the army under Fairfax, he was taken to Hurst Castle, in Hampshire.

Penzance, April 10. HENRY WILLIAMS.

THE LATE W. H. SCOTT, M.D., EDINBURGH.

Numismatic Science and its followers have sustained an irreparable loss in the late William Henry Scott, M.D., who died at Edinburgh, much lamented, on the fourth of October last, in his twenty-fourth year. It is difficult to imagine, how it was possible, in so short a life, to acquire so varied an amount of knowledge, as Dr. Scott possessed; but his mind from his earliest years was directed to historical and philological researches, which his never failing memory enabled him, whenever it was required, to embody and utilize with undeviating accuracy. His earliest perception of the use of Coins in verifying history, and tracing the progress of society, was perseveringly followed amid all the delays and interruptions of impaired health and a toilsome course of education, to which a sense of duty alone induced him to adhere; but when free to exercise his great acquirements, he combined them with surprising adroitness in furtherance of a design, to which he had proposed to devote his life had Providence permitted it, by granting him time, but of this, he always spoke doubtfully, and with exemplary resignation.

Having decyphered thirty or more languages, with no other aid, than that derived from books, which he had collected with much acumen and sagacity; his purpose was to compare all the alphabets of ancient and modern times, and as far as possible, the languages, the remains of numismatic art and other records, with the general history of the world as deduced from a widely extended course of inferential reasoning based on known facts; nor is there any cause to doubt, that from his rapid powers of calculation and combination, he would have fully accomplished his self imposed task. Much of the partly arranged material remains, though frequently retarded by enervating sickness, but the master spirit that had conceived the glorious plan is no longer a dweller on the earth.

A member of the Royal Asiatic Society of France, and of other learned societies abroad and at home, he maintained an interesting and instructive correspondence with *savans* of many countries, most of whom were personally unknown to him, but whose invariable kindness made him feel a sincere confidence in their association and friendship; among these his unseen and kind correspondents in Ireland, Mr. Lindsay and Mr. Sainthill were ever near his heart. One thing may fairly be said in his praise, when he received continental letters from persons usually considered as competent authorities, consulting him on abstruse points in oriental language or history, his diffidence was manifest, and his hesitation unequivocal; he was wanting in the presumption to direct or inform men so much older than himself; these were with him difficulties, not easily overcome, while on all occasions, the results of his erudition were, when asked for, freely at the service of his friends, and invariably advanced by him in the gentlest and kindest manner—qualities which never failed him, even in any of the more depressing vicissitudes of health.

As a Numismatist, Dr. Scott's character will be better understood, by the following encomium from his valued friend, Mr. Lindsay, so well known to the numismatic world.

"To exhibit a proper estimate of the acquisitions and powers of my lamented friend in the definement of either science, Numismatology, or Archæology, would require far greater abilities than I possess, and a far more extensive acquaintance with the subjects so ably discussed by him. In the several branches of numismatic lore which relate to the British Islands, or to the continent of Europe, we have many eminent writers, sufficiently able and conversant to describe the coinages of their respective countries; and to appreciate the researches of their brother numismatists; but Dr. Scott had this singular merit, not only was he intimately acquainted with these ordinary facts; but he aimed at far more important objects, and his general success was such as to excite the admiration and approval of those who had themselves laboured in the embarrassments attending researches into the ancient coinages of Central Asia.

A wide field for the students of archæology has been presented in little more than twenty years by the labours and observations of Colonel Tod, Dr. Honigberger, Sir Alexander Burnes, Mr. Masson, and the French generals Allard and Ventura, in the northern provinces of India; and in the more western parts of Asia, by Messrs. Layard, Botta, Rich, Major Rawlinson, and others, but the majority of those persons being deficient in the knowledge or taste, constituting the indispensable requirements of a numismatist, their progress has been unsatisfactory and barren of results, yet, here it was, that the great talents of Dr. Scott, shone forth, and his zeal for his favourite study enabled him to take the lead, while his acquirements in the ancient and for the most part dead languages of Asia, withdrew as it were the veil that enshrouded the prospect we had so long and so ardently desired to explore; unhappily, notwithstanding what he had achieved, much remains to be elucidated and explained, and while grateful for the light with which the splendour of his researches has enriched us, his premature death leaves a hiatus which it is feared will long remain unsupplied.

I feel a degree of pleasure in directing the reader's attention to a slight abstract of what this highly talented writer has done for the advancement of numis-

matic science, and which a familiarity with his published papers, and an intimate correspondence of several years has brought before my immediate notice.

To the importance and number of his contributions the five last volumes of the Numismatic Chronicle, and the Continental periodicals devoted to similar pursuits bear ample testimony. In the fourteenth volume of the Numismatic Chronicle, is found :—

A descriptive catalogue of unpublished varieties of Greek, Colonial, Imperial and Roman Coins; replete with interest, and exhibiting in particular, several varieties of a rare class—the brass coins of the Kings of the Bosphorus.

In the fifteenth volume, two papers; one on African Regal coins, presenting much new and important information. The other, on the coins of Helena, the consort of the Emperor Julian, a paper of considerable interest.

In the later volumes, is a long and most masterly paper on the Coins of the Parthian Kings, affording much that is elucidatory on this interesting class of numismatic rarities.

An essay on a Colonial coin of Tyndaris in Sicily; and in the following number, an elaborate article on the Regal Coins of Mesopotamia. He has, in truth, been the first to treat successfully this portion of the early Asiatic coinage, and his premature decease has apparently arrested for some time at least, a satisfactory arrangement of this most important, but most difficult series.

His papers on the coins of Ceylon, and on a coin of Arsaces XXX., have severally their importance. He had also made considerable progress in classing and interpreting the legends on the coins of the Persian and other kings, tributary to the Parthians; a subject that may be said to have been scarcely attempted by any other writer. The subjects in Numismatology adopted by Dr. Scott, were for the most part those of which the Continental Numismatists have rarely availed themselves, few indeed have shown any ardour in the pursuit, and still fewer have achieved their enquiries successfully. The Bactrian, Indo-Scythian, Parthian, Sub-Parthian, and Sassanian coins, with some others of minor importance but equal difficulty, were all closely studied by him, and the discoveries he made gave ample promise that all these classes would eventually be by him most completely and satisfactorily elucidated.

In reference to his great knowledge of the earlier spoken but now dead languages of Asia, and their great utility in the illustration of the ancient coinage of that country, the preface to the second volume of Mr. Sainthill's Olla Podrida presents a corroborative fact. An inscription on certain Parthian coins had baffled all enquiry, on the part of the author of the Coinage of the Parthians, and the most distinguished oriental scholars had failed in rendering even the smallest scintilla of explanation—the work appeared, and in Mr. Sainthill's Olla Podrida, vol. II., pp. xxiii-xxv., will be found a letter from Dr. Scott, explaining most lucidly all that could be required; and so anxious was Mr. Sainthill to secure the credit of this interpretation to his friend, that the printing of the volume, then arrived at the conclusion, was delayed until the coins were engraved in illustration of Dr. Scott's reading.

Yet not solely to these numismatic enquiries were his erudition and inimitable qualities subservient; they comprehended almost every other department of archæology; and however unquestionably important his printed papers are, his extensive correspondence with the principal numismatists of Europe, must no doubt be far more so, and if collected would present a series of discoveries, and many ingenious and sound observations of the highest degree of importance, and judging from the assistance I have derived from his correspondence, while compiling some of the works I have published, and others, I am yet engaged with, I can fully estimate the irreparable loss which those busied in the numismatic and archæological science have yet to deplore."

A brother numismatist, and from infancy a fellow student with Dr. Scott, but now professionally employed in the East; on being apprised of his lamented friend's decease, wrote—"It is difficult as yet to realise fully the loss we have sustained. He was such an excellent man, so good a friend, and so wonderful a scholar. He was indeed one of those early lights whose very intensity precludes their burning long, and whom God has withdrawn to himself, as a guiding star of whom the world was scarce worthy. All his old friends and fellow students out here, are greatly grieved, as he was admired and beloved by all."

WEBER'S MANUSCRIPT OF OBERON.

It is stated, Baron Korff, the Director of the Imperial Library at St. Petersburg has made known, that the Manuscript of Oberon is in his keeping. It extends to two hundred and nineteen pages, text and notes together, and is wholly in Weber's autograph, and with a number of marginal memoranda, from which are derived the particulars, that the Opera was composed partly in Dresden, and partly in London, between 1825 and 1826; and that the overture was finished in London, April 9, 1826. Weber was then residing with Sir George Smart. What Baron Korff does not mention, is the important fact, that this original score was intended by Weber's widow and son to have been presented to her Majesty the Queen of England; but that the widow dying, the Staatsrath persuaded the surviving son to present it to the Emperor of Russia, after having it handsomely bound for that purpose, by holding out to him the expectation of a rich Imperial present in return. What the younger Weber really received was a few lines from Count Adlerberg, expressing the Emperor Nicholas's thanks for the present.

The late Mr. Hawes had Weber's original scores for Oberon in his possession, and he presented the writer with the first song in the second act, because it was complete on one sheet of paper.

WHAT HAS BEEN MAY BE AGAIN!

Upon the decease of Otho III., Emperor of Germany, Henry II. was elected his successor, and during his reign for twenty years, that is, from 1004 to 1024, the German clergy enriched and emboldened by the blind devotion to their interests of this bigoted monarch, began to assume an authority over the temporal affairs of the empire, paramount with his own; insomuch, that as their displeasure was dreaded by every prince in Germany, so also, was their friendship eagerly courted, and that influence in many respects predominated over the authoritative power of the Emperor. Memorably distinguished for this assumption of arrogance and audacity, was Meinwerk, bishop of Paderborn, of whom an historian of the eleventh century asserts—there was no meanness to which he did not descend in order to enrich his dioceses; and, whenever the Emperor refused to grant him what he demanded, he forcibly possessed himself of the object of his desires or requirement.

The Emperor being once on a visit to him, Meinwerk ordered all the ewes, then with young, which were to be found on his estates, to be killed, and a mantle made of the skins of the unborn lambs, which he placed on the shoulders of Henry, on his return from the bath. The Emperor, however, desired to have a better mantle, or one more fitting to his princely person; upon which, the bishop replied—I have stripped my poor bishopric, its clergy, and its farmers who derived their livelihood from their sheep, in order to clothe thee, and God will chastise thee, if thou do not make good the loss. The Emperor smiled, but shortly after bestowed upon him the valuable estate of Stein.

Henry, having once sent to the bishop for his inspection a costly vessel, Meinwerk caused it to be immediately melted, and the metal converted into a cup, which he consecrated on the altar. The Emperor having reproached him with the theft, the bishop answered, I have been guilty of no theft, but have piously consecrated to the service of God, that which was dedicated to feast thy avarice and pride, and if thou darest to take away this offering of my piety, thou wilt ensure thy own damnation.

Meinwerk, on another occasion, stole a costly robe out of the Emperor's chamber, and answered Henry's censure of that act by saying—It is fitter that this garment should be retained in the temple of God, than adorn thy mortal body: as for thy threats I despise them!

In something of the like spirit, the present head of the Church at Rome conducts his appropriations. Mazzini last month, forwarded fifty pounds to a friend in that city, but it was seized at the post office, and applied to the fund for raising a statue to the Immaculate Virgin!

Athenæum Club, April 2. F. S. A.

LAFROWDA. I observe the query, but cannot throw light upon it, though I gave much attention to it when I was at St. Just. G. C. GORHAM.

Brampford Speke Vicarage, April 5.

AUTHORSHIP OF THE WAVERLEY NOVELS.

The diffidence with which the opponents of the supposition that Sir Walter Scott was the author of the Waverley Novels have advanced their opinions, is both pleasing and natural, and there seems some likelihood that our own wishes would so far bear us, that we should exclaim with Sydney Smith—Oh! don't tell me of facts, I never believe facts! But we feel assured, on the other hand, that Sir Walter would himself never have opposed a free enquiry into the supposed authorship of the novels in question, and so conclude with a certain personage in 'Hard Times' to banish as far as possible feelings, and retain—nothing but facts.

Did we not know that Sir Walter Scott was a person of the strictest integrity and uprightness, his position as a gentleman and 'a Scotchman' would be, we conclude, sufficient guarantee for his word: and if his word is to be believed, the case runs against him. His assurance to Rogers that he was not the author, is supported by a statement still more corroborative, in Lockhart's Life. Not having this volume at hand* we quote from a transcript of the passage in Smith's Ramble in the Streets of London:—

Towards midnight the Prince called for a 'bumper' with all the honours to the 'Author of Waverley,' and looked significantly as he was charging his own glass, to Scott. Scott seemed somewhat puzzled for a moment, but instantly recovering himself, and filling his glass to the brim, said, 'Your Royal Highness looks as if you thought I had some claim to the honour of this toast. I have *no* such pretensions, but shall take good care that the real

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* Vol. III, p. 343, to which the reader is referred, and doubtless the admission acknowledged, that the Prince Regent certainly checkmated his guest, the author of Waverley, 'Walter, my man, for *once*.'

Our correspondent and others who imagine Scott NOT to have been the author of the Waverley Novels, are certainly in error. The writer for some years, commencing in 1820, was the forager in London for many of the books on witches and warlocks, and matters relative to Scottish History, more particularly in reference to the Pretenders, which Scott required for his subsequent publications. These requirements were invariably made to the late Daniel Terry, and from him to the writer. A manuscript that had been forwarded to Scott, was in part used in the Pirate. The writer who had no doubt as to the authorship of the Novels, jocularly hinted to Terry, Can I now have any doubt as to the writer? He made no reply, and 'Surly' was as deafly unconcerned as if not spoken to. The fact is, Scott enjoined *secrecy* to all of his associates, and they maintained his faith admirably, though attempts were frequently made to unkennel him, in a variety of ways; at length confession was forced upon him, and he admitted himself to be the culprit. His previous assertions that he was 'not the author,' are to be looked upon as so many 'trading white lies,' and there are sufficient evidential facts, that not only did he up to that point endeavour to maintain his anonymous character, but pseudonymes were proposed, and only forborne on the advisedly steady remonstrances of those persons upon whose better judgment he relied. Ed.

Simon Pure hears of the high compliment that has now been paid him.' He then drank off his claret, and joined with a stentorian voice in the cheering, which the Prince himself timed.

The first of the Waverley Novels appeared in [1815,] the same year that the 'Lord of the Isles,' the author's last great poem, was given to the public. If it be indeed the work of an author hitherto unknown,' so wrote the critic in the Edinburgh Review, 'Mr. Scott would do well to look to his laurels.'

And let it be remembered, as a note worthy of fact, that even during the lifetime of Sir Walter, it was hinted, and believed by many, that his brother was the 'real Simon Pure,' and not himself.

In these hasty notes we have but strung together a few facts that may be useful to any one who shall with time and opportunity take up the gauntlet for, or against 'the Wizard of the North.' T. H. PATTISON.

THE LASS OF RICHMOND HILL.

In the recently published Memoirs of Mrs. Fitzherbert, by the Hon. Charles Langdale, it is stated she was born July 26, 1756, and at the time of her second widowhood, was residing on Richmond Hill, when she became the object of the Prince's attentions; and on the authority of Lord Stourton, it was at this conjuncture that her beauty was celebrated in a popular song, in which allusion was thus made to the addresses of the heir apparent:—

I'd crowns resign to call her mine,
Sweet lass of Richmond-hill.

This was a flourish of fancy, though it obtained a general currency, and the song most ridiculously has been attributed to the poetical capabilities of the Prince. A negative has been placed on the assertion by the claim of the grandson of the lady upon whom it appears to have been written. The writer it is said was Leonard McNally, born September 27, 1752, and the song was written by him in compliment to Miss Ianson, the daughter of Mr. William Ianson, of Richmond-hill, Seybourne, in Yorkshire; and who became the wife of McNally at St. George's, Hanover Square, on January 16, 1787.

Leonard McNally commenced as a dramatist with the comic opera, entitled, The Ruling Passion, performed at Dublin in 1779. Eight other pieces by him were represented at Covent Garden Theatre, from 1782 to 1786. Supposing him, upon his marriage, to have retired to Dublin professionally, as a barrister-at-law, the music of the words of the Lass of Richmond Hill, was composed as those of 'a new song,' by James Hook, the father of Dean Hook and the late Theodore Hook; and sung by Incledon at Vauxhall, in June or July 1789, where it was most popularly received.

Presuming Miss Ianson to have been 'the Lass of Richmond Hill;' Mrs. McNally died in Dominick Street, Dublin, in September, 1795; and Mr. McNally's marriage with Miss Louisa Edgeworth, daughter of the then deceased Rev. Robert Edgeworth, of Issaid, in the county of Longford, took place in April 1800.

COINAGE OF EDWARD THE FIRST.

Much pleased with the suggestion of Mr. Haswell, I think that a perfect list of the Coins of Edward the First, is a great desideratum, and therefore add my mite to the number already before the public.

LONDON.

1. ЄDV R ANGL' DNS HYB. Cross and large letters, as no. 1.
   CIVI TAS DON LON The two syllables reversed.
2. Another, obv. similar to no. 1., no abbreviatory mark.

YORK.

3. As no. 82. The cross formed by a pellet above and below the inner beaded circle.
4. As no. 82. EDW. thus, but no cross on the King's breast. On reverse, the quatrefoil differs from the last by the shape of the leaves. The pellet larger.
5. As no. 83. EDVV on obverse; on reverse, the leaves of the quatrefoil joined in the centre, with a small line through the middle of each leaf.
6. As no. 80. but EDVV on the obverse.

DUBLIN.

7. As no. 93, but no mark on reverse over DNS

WATERFORD.

8. As no. 99, excepting two dots below bust, and mark over DNS

Hartlepool, April 12. JOHN E. ROBSON.

In addition to the list printed in Current Notes, pp. 15-17, the following varieties have also come under my notice. They are principally taken from coins which were found at Tutbury, and passed into the hands of the late Mr. Wolston Roberts, of Derby. I must express my thanks to those gentlemen who have added to my previous list, but as noted by the editor, W. F. M.'s list contains many of Edward the Second's pennies, an account of which I hope shortly to send to your valuable publication.

Nottingham, April 15. F. R. N. HASWELL.

LONDON.

1. EDW R ANGL DNS HYB
   CIVITЄ LONDON
2. EDW R ANGL EX-DENS HYB
   CIVITAS LONDON
3. EDW R : ANGL DNS HYB
   CIVITAS LONDON as no. 1.
4. As no. 8, with English Є on obverse.
5. As no. 2, but with only one dot or roundel on the breast.
6. As no. 15, the S not reversed.
7. Obv. as the last but on reverse CIVITAS LVNDON

CANTERBURY.

8. As no. 32, but with Roman C's.
9. As no. 32; with EDVV not EDW

P. 24, col. 2, line 18 from bottom, read Edward I.

CHESTER.

10. As no. 40, but with brooch on the breast.
11. As no. 40, but with Roman c's.

ST. EDMUNDSBURY.

12. DW R' ANGL DNS HYB
ROBЄ RTDЄ HADE LEIE
13. As no. 60. On reverse, the RO DE and DE in HADELEIE united as dipthongs.
14. As no. 64. The English Є on obv. and reverse.

EXETER.

15. EDW R ANGL DNS HB No star on breast.
CIVITAS EXONIE Small letters, as no. 67.

KINGSTON-UPON-HULL.

16. As no. 68. Rev. VIL KYNGESTON

NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE.

17. As no. 73, but with English Є.
18. As no. 74, but on reverse a pellet or roundel at end of each limb of the cross.

READING.

19. EDW R ANGL' DNS HYB
VIL LAR ADI NGY An escallop shell in the first quarter below VIL. Three pellets in the rest.

The arms of the Abbey of Reading, founded by King Henry the First, who was buried here in 1133, and also his daughter Maud; were azure, three escalops or. The escalop is therefore the abbatial mark on the pennies struck in the time of the Abbot Robert de Burghare, who resigned in 1287.

YORK.

20. As no. 84. English Є on the reverse only.

DUBLIN.

21. As no. 94. On obverse, a low placed dot before EDW and on the reverse the English Є.

WATERFORD.

22. ЄDW R' ANGL' DNS HYB' Below the bust are two dots, the letters small.
CIVITAS WATERFOR' Letters larger than on obverse.

ANCIENT CROSSES IN WEST OF CORNWALL.

The recent publication of Mr. J. T. Blight's highly illustrated volume on the Greek, Transition, Latin and Gothic Crosses; with the Celtic, Druidical, and Roman remains in the West of Cornwall, is one of those pleasurable books which ever and anon brighten the path of the antiquary and the archæologist. Drawn from the immediate objects as still seen, and engraved by the same artist, the illustrations are entitled to the highest commendation for their graphic resemblance to the originals, and are singularly valuable in aiding the reference of writers on these subjects. There are eighty pictorial representations, and in several, the positions of the objects as placed by the roadside or otherwise, are admirably pourtrayed, and opportunely recalling the object to the remembrance of the traveller in days which have past.

With much truth it may be observed, the ancient crosses, still so numerous in the western part of Cornwall, have been hitherto generally neglected by the antiquary; while, from having been formed of the enduring granite, many are almost as perfect now as when they were first placed on their respective sites. It is possible they may have been equally numerous in other parts of the county, but the gradual occupation of the waste lands has caused their almost entire extinction. Some of them have been used as building materials, which has been the case more generally of late years. Many have undergone mutilation by ignorant or mischievous persons, and in this neighbourhood, the mutilated parts of many may be seen built into hedges.

Adopted in the early ages by the Christians as an emblem of their faith, the Cross is believed to have been introduced with Christianity into Britain so early as the year 60. Constantine the Great, having in 311 embraced the Christian religion, is said to have set up in many places the Cross as a symbol, and became sole master of the Roman Empire in 323. The taunts of the people becoming, however, offensive to him, he in 330, quitted Rome for Byzantium, and named the city Constantinople. The conversion of the Irish is said to have followed the landing of St. Patrick in Ireland in 432; and so rapid was the promulgation of the doctrine of the Cross, that in 490, Ireland was named the Isle of Saints. Cornwall, it is stated, received its first missionaries from Ireland, and it is not improbable that some of the crosses yet remaining, were set up in this district so early as the sixth century. The Cornish Britons continued separately distinct from the Saxons, to the period of the Conquest, when their lands were appropriated by the Norman chiefs; and it is probable that the public monuments remained undisturbed and unprofaned until later times, when frequent changes occurred in the proprietary of the soil.

The Knights of St. John, an order instituted in 1099, bore a cross, black upon white. Hugh de Payens, the first Superior of the Knights' Templars, visited England in 1128, when many grants of land in Cornwall were made to that fraternity, and the symbol of martyrdom, the blood-red cross, of the same form as that worn by the order of St. John, was granted to the Templars, by Pope Eugenius III., at Paris in 1146, on the commencement of the second Crusade. Both Orders held lands in Cornwall, and the peculiar form of their cross, which occurs in some few instances in the county, may possibly have been introduced by them.

Crosses were used from an early period of the Christian era, to the time of the Reformation, and their style varied in accordance with the different periods, from the most simple or even rude forms, to others more chaste and elegant. The Latin form of the cross continued in Western Europe until 1050, when began the schism between the Latin and Greek churches, and during this contention, the Greek crosses in this neighbourhood are generally supposed to owe their introduction.

Crosses served sometimes to denote a place of sepul-

ture, or to mark the resting places of the corpse on the way to its interment. The churchyard crosses were not always monumental, for occasionally one was placed near the south or chief entrance to the church, suggestive of due preparation previously to entering the sacred building. Occasionally congregations were addressed by the priest, and proclamations made from such crosses. The crosses set up in market places had much the same purposes; from these, proclamations of war or peace, or any other matter of general interest were made known in purport to the people generally. The view of one, as it formerly stood in the market-place at Penzance is here shewn.*

Crosses on the highways served as prayer-stations, and as indices or guide-posts to the different baptistries, oratories, or other religious foundations: many of them were of great public utility, being erected on dreary moors, where there were no other indications to direct the sojourner on his way. At these stations, the rich traveller often deposited alms for the succour of the poor or distressed wayfarer who might follow him.

Many crosses still stand near the sites of churches or chapels which have long since been destroyed, and of which no other vestiges remain. All these varieties and their peculiarities, are severally graphically defined, and in reference to the divisions which have been adopted, that is, the Greek, the Transition, and the Latin Crosses, the author observes, these are in many instances not free from objection, and must of course be to some extent arbitrary; since several which have a Greek cross on one face, have a Latin or Transition cross on the other; and many which now have four equal parts, like the Greek cross, have evidently been broken off from the elongated shaft of the Latin: some indulgence is therefore solicited for the attempt at identification.

* The cross, in height five feet, and in breadth two feet three inches, was moved in 1829 from the centre of the market-place. The following inscription—

HIC PROCVMBVNT CORPORA PIORVM;

was then found near the base, on the reverse side.

EXCHEQUER PAYMENTS WITHOUT ACCOUNT,

From March 25, 1721, to March 25, 1725, inclusive. (Printed from the original record.)

To Thomas Lowther, Gent., as a Gift from His Majesty, towards building the parish church of St. Martins. 105*l.*

[Dr. Willis, Bishop of Salisbury and Lord Almoner, on behalf of His Majesty, laid the first stone in the foundation of the parish church of St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, March 19, 1721-2; and presented the workmen with one hundred guineas from His Majesty. To this donation, the record appears to refer].

To John Tooker, for Arthur Collins [Compiler of the Peerage]. 200*l.*

To Dr. James Douglas, for his performance, and towards publishing his Anatomical Observations. 500*l.*

[Dr. Douglas will be long held in remembrance from the extraordinary number of the editions of Horace which he collected].

To Dr. Thomas Renton, for making known his Art, Skill and Mystery in curing Ruptures. 5000*l.*

To Sir Richard Steele, as of Royal Bounty. 500*l.*

[He was also restored to the office of Comptroller of the Theatre Royal, May 18, 1721].

To Philip Dormer Stanhope, commonly called Lord Stanhope, in lieu of a Jewel. 500*l.*

[His father James Stanhope, married Feb. 24, 1713, Lucy, daughter of Governor Pitt, memorable for having given name as the possessor, to the great Diamond among the Crown Jewels of France. Philip Dormer Stanhope was born in 1714; and the father created Earl of Stanhope, April 14, 1718. The Earl died Feb. 4, 1721, and by the King's command had a military funeral. This gift of a Jewel, to the second Earl, then so young, appears to have been in consideration of his father's services].

To Charles Maitland, Surgeon, for inoculating Prince Frederick [father of King George III.], for the small pox. 1000*l.*

To Zachary Pearce, Vicar of St. Martins, as of Royal Bounty, to erect an Organ there. 1500*l.*

To Thomas Lowther, Gent., for His Majesty's Service. 43,000*l.*

To Sir Joseph Eyles, Knt., for the Young Princesses. 79,000*l.*

To the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and others, for the repair of Westminster Abbey. 24,000*l.*

To Colonel Jasper Clayton, for inspecting the demolition of Dunkirk. 482*l.*

To Christopher Tilson, to answer the value of Pictures, bought by His Majesty, of John Laws, Esq. 4215*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.*

[Qu. Was this Christopher Tilson, the younger brother of Henry Tilson? See Walpole's Painters, edit. 1827, vol. III., p. 205. The pictures appear to have been purchased of the memorable originator of the Missisippi Scheme in France; dismissed by the Regent, to appease the clamour of the multitudes his projects had ruined, he returned to England, Oct. 2, 1721; and on Nov. 28, pleaded at the

King's Bench bar, His Majesty's pardon, for the murder in 1694, of Richard Wilson, Esq., better known in history as Beau Wilson].

To Charles King, Esq., for charges and expences in printing "The British Merchant," [printed in three volumes, 8vo.] 395*l.* 16*s.*

To Gabriel Bourdon, Merchant, for twenty-six bustoes with marble pedestals, for His Majesty. 600*l.*

To several persons for their houses and goods burned at Preston. 4730*l.* 18*s.* 6*d.*

To Joseph Downing, printer for "The Soldier's Monitor" 268*l.* 19*s.* 11*d.*

To Peter Waller, for Henry [fourth] Earl of Clarendon, in consideration of resuming the Mansion-house gate at Whitehall. 6000*l.*

To Thomas Pain, Gent., for transcribing the Journals of the House of Lords and Commons. 1637*l.* 17*s.*

To Dr. Edward Halley, to furnish Her Majesty's observatory at Greenwich, with instruments 500*l.*

To William Elliot, Gent., for funeral charges of the late Earl of Clarendon. 200*l.*

[Edward Hyde, the third Earl, who died March 31, 1723; he was succeeded by his cousin and heir, Henry Hyde, the fourth Earl, and second Earl of Rochester].

To Robert Saunderson, Esq., for making three additional Volumes to Rymer's Fœdera. 700*l.*

To the Kings, Heralds, and Pursuivants at arms, for a largess or reward upon the creation of Nobility. 245*l.*

To Richard Topham, Gent., Keeper of the Records in the Tower, for clerks, 150*l.* per annum. 637*l.* 10*s.*

To George Holmes, Gent., his chief clerk, 100*l.* per annum. 425*l.*

To Philip Horneck, Gent., 200*l.* per annum. 850*l.*

To Henry Portman, Esq., Keeper of Hyde Park, 200*l.* per annum.

To the same, for watering the Ring, 200*l.* per annum.

To David Casley, Deputy Keeper of Cotton Library, 82*l.* per annum. 387*l.*

To Thomas Coke, Esq., Vice-Chamberlain of the Household, 600*l.* per annum. 2505*l.* 8*s.* 2*d.*

To Richard West, Esq., 300*l.* per annum. 225*l.*

To Joseph Roberts, Keeper of Her Majesty's Water Engine at Windsor, 40*l.* per annum.

To Charles, Duke of St. Albans, Master of the Hawks. Fee, 10*s* per diem. Thirty shillings per month, and 800*l.* per annum. 6176*l.* 4*s.* 9*d.*

[Charles Beauclerk, second Duke of St. Albans, the grandson of King Charles the Second and Nell Gwynne. He had also an annuity of 1000*l.* per annum; was Lord Lieutenant of Berkshire, and Governor of Windsor Castle. He died July 27, 1751].

To Hugh Howard, Keeper of the Records in Whitehall. 800*l.*

To Thomas Chaplin, Esq., Keeper of the Tennis Court, Fee, eight pence per day; and 120*l.* per annum. 495*l.* 9*s.* 4*d.*

To Dr. Richard Bentley, Clerk of the King's Library, Fee, 200*l.* per annum. 750*l.*

To Charles Killigrew, Esq., Master of the Revels, Fee, 10*l.* per annum. 32*l.* 10*s.*

To L'Estrange Syms, Comptroller of the Revels, Fee, eight pence per diem. 39*l.* 10*s.* 10*d.*

To William Lee, Latin Secretary, Fee, 80*l.* per annum. 320*l.*

To the same, Annuity of 200*l.* 650*l.*

To the Kings, Heralds, and Pursuivants of arms on their several Fees. 1675*l.*

To Jane Grace Incledon, Keeper of the Palace at Westminster, Fee, sixpence per diem. 37*l.* 8*s.*

To Sir Christopher Wren, Queen's Surveyor of the Works, 2*s.* 6*d.* per diem. 11*l.* 6*s.* 3*d.*

[Sir Christopher Wren, who after the great fire in 1666, had been constituted Surveyor General for the rebuilding the Cathedral and other public edifices; and in 1669, Surveyor General of the Royal Works, was ungratefully displaced by party influence in 1718. He died in the ninety-first year of his age, Feb. 25, 1722-3]

To Christopher Wren, Esq., Clerk of the Queen's Works, Fee, One hundred marks per ann. 16*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.*

To John Incledon, Esq., late Keeper of the Queen's Palace at Westminster, Fee, sixpence per diem. 4*l.* 11*s.*

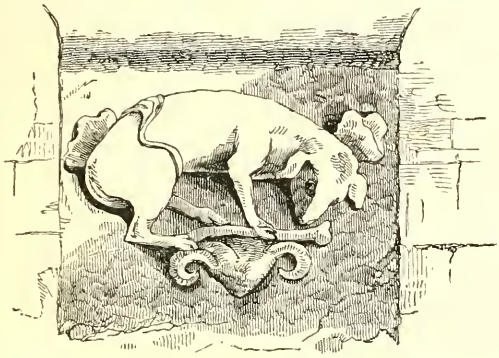
CORBEL IN BRECHIN CATHEDRAL TOWER.

Brechin was created a bishoprick in 1150, by David the First, King of Scotland, who also founded the church, which was built by the side of the celebrated Round Tower of that place, but the time is not exactly known; no record remains of the progress of the work, or that it was finished. At the time of the Reformation, induced by John Knox, the infuriated zealots sternly adopted the advice of their leader, "to pull down the trees, and cause the rooks to fly away," and Brechin shared the fate of many of the old Popish fanes in Scotland: it was nearly destroyed, but the remains shew that in its palmy days the church of Brechin had been an edifice of considerable extent and of much elegance in its construction. The ruins of the chancel still present some beautiful examples of the early English style of Gothic architecture. The west window, approaching in similarity to the flamboyant tracery of the famous window in the church of St. Ouen at Rouen, is yet in good preservation; but the principal door of entrance, immediately below that window, has suffered sadly from the storms of ages, and the reed enrichment, of which at one time it could boast, and was supposed to be an unique feature in Gothic architecture, has almost wholly crumbled away.

The nave, at the time of the Reformation, was appropriated as a parish church, but in a sorry attempt at some misnamed improvements, in 1806, the old aisles and cloisters were wholly demolished.

The square tower, or belfry, is at the north-west corner of the church, and with its octagonal spire, one hundred and twenty-eight feet in height, is a beautifully proportioned and imposing object. The bartizan, or top of the tower, is ascended by a spiral staircase, and the

tower itself may be said to be divided into several compartments. The lowermost, having a groined roof, the arches springing from illuminated corbels terminating in a plain circle, is the meeting place of the presbytery, and session of Brechin; and in the upper part the great bell is suspended. In the latter compartment rises the base of the spire of the tower, and the four corbels, on which the base rests, bear beautiful carvings in high relief. The sculptures are about seven inches in height, and from ten to twelve inches in length. Three of the ornaments are floral, and bear no particular peculiarity, excepting the broad and effective manner in which they are executed; but the fourth, here represented, is more remarkable—



It abuts from the north-east corner of the tower, and, as will be seen, represents—a whimsical freak in design—a dog with its tail strangely turned over the back, picking a bone, and supported by a ram's head and horns—it is the only corbel of this description I have yet seen.

A deed in the Registrum Ecclesiæ Cathedralis de Brechin, now in the press, may be said to afford some data for believing that the square tower or steeple, in which this singular corbel is found, was either built or repaired by Patrick de Leuchars, bishop of Brechin, from 1354 to about the year 1373, and who for sometime held the office of Chancellor of Scotland. This is the only deed having any reference to the building or restoring any part of the Cathedral. Possibly some reader of Current Notes may have seen a similarly devised corbel elsewhere; if so, the date of the building in which it appears might be useful in ascertaining the exact period of the erection of the square tower at Brechin, which, notwithstanding the passing notice in the deed referred to, is as yet an unauthenticated surmise.

Brechin, April 10. A. J.

Chifney.—Are there any particulars known of the death of the once celebrated jockey Samuel Chifney, whose volume entitled—Genius Genuine, and published at Five guineas! occasioned no little stir in its day?

Newmarket, April 5. M.

He died in January, 1807, in the rules of the Fleet prison.

THE TREATY OF PEACE PEN.

So, after all the high-flown descriptions of eagle-winged pride, that the pen with which the Plenipotentiaries were to sign the Articles of Peace was being richly jewelled by the jeweller of the Emperor's household, the incident simply solves itself into these particulars.

The pen with which the Treaty of Peace was signed, was made from a quill taken from the wing of an eagle, at the Jardin des Plantes. Immediately after the signatures, it was placed on a sheet of white paper, and the seals of all the Powers represented at the Congress, accompanied by the signatures of the Plenipotentiaries, were attached about it, and below it was written the attestation:

I certify that this pen was taken by me from the Imperial Eagle, at the Jardin des Plantes, and that it served for the signature of the Treaty of Peace of the 30th of March, 1856.

Feuillet de Conches,
Chef de Bureau du Protocol.

The whole was then placed in a gilded frame, and a glass fixed over it, to be presented to the Empress.

Athenæum Club, April 4. M.

CLERICAL BELL FOUNDER.

In Bowen's Manuscript Collections for Shropshire, among Gough's Topographical books, deposited in the Bodleian Library, Oxford, is the following extract from the register of Thomas Botelar, vicar of Wenlock, in the reigns of Henry VIII., Edward VI., Mary and Elizabeth.

1546. May 26, buried out of tow tenements in Mardfold-street, next St. Owen's well, Sir William Corvehill, priest of the seruice of our lady in this church, which 2 tenements belonged to the said seruice; he had them in his occupacōn in part of his wages, which was viij marks and the said houses in an ov.'plus. He was well skilled in geometry, not by speculation but by experience: could make organs, clocks and chimes; in keruing in masonry, and silk-weauing and painting, and could make all instruments of musick, and was a uery patient and gud man, borne in this borowe, and somtyme monk in the monastery;* two brethren he had, called dōpne John, monk in said monastery; and Sir Andreu Corvehill, a secular priest, who died at Croydon in Surry; on whose souls God haue mercy.

All this country had a great loss of sir William, for he was a good bell founder and maker of frames.

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* Wenlock olim Wimnicas was first a nunnery erected about 680 by St. Milburga, daughter to King Merwald, who presided over it. It was destroyed by the Danes, but restored by Leofric, Earl of Chester, in the time of King Edward the Confessor; but being abandoned, and falling into decay, it was in 1080 rebuilt and endowed for a prior and convent of Cluniac monks, by Roger of Montgomery, Earl of Arundel, Chichester, and Shrewsbury. It was dedicated to St. Milburg, who was said to have been buried here; and upon the dissolution of all monastical institutions in 1537, was granted by King Henry VIII. to Augustine de Augustinis. William 'somtyme monk,' appears on the suppression to have conformed to the new faith.

BIBLICAL QUOTATIONS BY SHAKESPEARE.

Shakespeare in his Dramas has frequently quoted from the Bible; take the following as examples:—

Rude am I in speech. Othello, Act i. sc. 3.

But though I be rude in speech. 2 Corinthians, ch. xi. v. 6.

Shew his eyes and grieve his heart. Macbeth, Act iv. sc. 2.

Consume thy eyes and to grieve thine heart. 1 Samuel, ch. ii. v. 33.

Lighted fools the way to dusty death. Macbeth, Act v. sc. 3.

Thou hast brought me into the dust of death. Psalm xxii 15.

Mistake me not for my complexion,
The shadow'd livery of the burning sun. Merchant of Venice, Act ii. sc. 1.

Look not upon me, because I am black, because the sun has looked upon me. Song of Solomon, ch. i. v. 6.

I took by the throat the circumcised dog, and smote him thus. Othello, Act. v. sc. 2.

I caught him by his beard, and smote him. 1 Samuel, ch. xvii. v. 35.

Let this pernicious hour stand aye accursed in the calender. Macbeth, Act iv. sc. 2.

Cursed his day; let it not be joined unto the days of the year. Job, ch. iii. v. 6.

We will die with harness on our back. Macbeth, Act v. sc. 5.

Nicanor lay dead in his harness. 2 Maccabees, ch. xv. v. 28.

Possibly some of your readers may be both able and willing to add to the above passages?

Thornhill, April 8. T. B. G.

Pepys. In some notices of Parliamentary representatives, 1677, it is stated, Samuel Pepys, the member for Castle-Rising, was originally a taylor, then servingman to Lord Sandwich, now Secretary to the Admiralty; has got by passes and other illegal wayes 40,000*l.*

Angel's Visits.—In what writer or poem occurs the line commencing—

Like angel's visits few and far between?

Cheltenham, April 3. H. S. H.

In Campbell's Pleasures of Hope, in the second part. The lines are—

What though my winged hours of bliss have been,
Like Angel's visits, few and far between.

Campbell, however, seems to have been indebted for this poetical expression to Blair, in whose admirable poem entitled the Grave, first printed in 1743, are the lines—

—— The good he scorn'd
Stalked off reluctant like an ill used ghost,
Not to return; or if it did, its visits
Like those of Angels, short and far between.

English Poets, by Chalmers, 1810, vol. xv. p. 67, col. 2.

THE BLIND MAN'S COMPLAINT.

An old manuscript in my possession, has with many more, the following lines:—

While night's black muffler hoodeth up the skies,
The silly blind man misseth not his eyes;
But when the day summons to worke againe,
His night eternall then hee doth complaine
That he goes groping, and his hand, alas!
Is faine to guide his foot and guard his face.

They are margined thus—Du Bartas, Impost., page 263. Are they original, or from any translation of Du Bartas? H. J. Little.

These lines commence a simile in The Imposture, a poem printed in Du Bartas His Diuine Weekes and Workes, translated by Josvah Sylvester, 1641, folio, p. 94, col. 1.

Letter from Richard Grenville, first Earl Temple, K.G., but second in the Earldom of Buckingham; addressed to the Right Honourable Hans Stanley.

Norwich, March ye 8th, 1768.

My dear Stanley. You will excuse my reminding you of your kind engagement to lend me a thousand pounds from Lady-day for six months. If not inconvenient I would wish it might be paid into Mr. Drummond's hands, and that his receipt might be accepted as a voucher till my return to London.

My Friends have made a handsome figure in our County Battle; Mr. Coke would have succeeded as well as Sir Edward Astley, if he had been supported by those from whom he had an indisputable right to expect it.

An account which has just reached me of Lady Buckingham's having brought me a third daughter, a circumstance which distresses me upon account of my own feelings, and much more from my knowledge of her's, will I hope apologise for my not adding more than that assurance, which flows naturally from my pen, of the regard and affection, with which I am,

Your most faithful and obedient servant,
Buckingham.

Lady Buckingham was Anne, da. and coheir of Thomas Chambers, of Hanworth, co. Middlesex, Esq.; a lady of some celebrity, whose poems were printed in 1754, at Strawberry Hill. The Earl, born in 1711, died without surviving issue, Sept. 11, 1779.

THE "FORGET ME NOT" FLOWER.

Bishop Mant gives the traditionary creed for the name of this flower. Where are the complete verses to be found, and by whom were they written?

Then the blossoms blue, to the bank he threw,
Ere he sank in the eddying tide;
And Lady I'm gone, thine own Knight true,
Forget me Not! he cried.

The farewell pledge the Lady caught,
And hence, as legends say—
The flower is a sign to awaken thought
Of friends who are far away.

Crakemarsh, April 15. M. A. C. S.

WILLIS'S CURRENT NOTES.

No. LXV.] "Takes note of what is done— By note, to give and to receive."—SHAKESPEARE. [MAY, 1856.

OXFORDSHIRE PAROCHIAL MEMORANDA.

In Current Notes, pp. 30-31, are some interesting memoranda relative to the manor of Glympton. The earliest Register book of that parish, made of parchment, does not commence till "the 25th of June, in the year of our Lord, 1667;" one hundred and twenty-nine years after the issuing of the injunction by Thomas Lord Cromwell, for the keeping of registers. Possibly the following extracts, which with many others, by the kind permission of the late Rev. T. Nucella, I made from that register may be worth adding.

At p. 23, is an entry made by the rector, it appears in 1686, 2 James II., to the following effect.

Memorandum: Least the not demanding any other offerings att Easter then what are given att the Sacrament should be thought a neglect of mine, I am concerned to leave to my successors, this account which I had from some of the most understanding of the parish.

Whereas anciently there was a barbarous custom here for all the house-keepers, and which is worse the (judicious) rabble, to come to the Minister's house on Easter-day after the Sacrament, to demand bread and cheese, and drink themselves full of ale, and in process of time, meate, pigeon pyes, etc. This rudeness was broken off by way of exchange, that is, the quitting the Easter two-pences; and whereas long afterward, my predecessor demanded Easter-offerings, the parish came and demanded their ancient custom, which he was forced and glad to be ridden of. This I had from the mouth of an honest neighbour, who was one of those who came to demand it.

Ita est STEPH. PENTON, Rector.

Under another heading there is a subsequent reference.

CUSTOMES AND USAGES IN GLYMPTON.

1. A Fee Farm: rent payable at Michaelmas to Mr. Samuel Barton. *6s. 8d.*

2. A dinner at Christmas, not on any certain day, for such house-keepers as take no almes.

3. The poor who take alms, have one peck of wheat, and one shilling.

4. Noe two-pences demanded att Easter, above the ordinary Oblations att the Sacrament, for a reason ascertained at p. 23. [As above.]

The Glympton register, with many others in the north of Oxfordshire, which I have examined, contains items relative to the sums being collected for the redemption of the English who were captives and in slavery in Turkey; a curious contrast with the present state of the two countries.

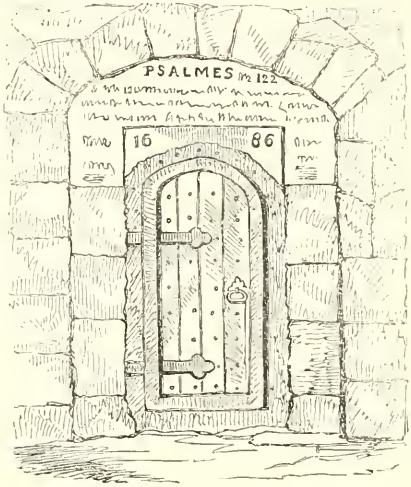
Deddington, May 12. C. FAULKNER.

ST. ANDREW'S OLD CHURCH, PORTLAND.

This edifice, at the southern extremity of the island, very near to the sea, was erected and dedicated to St. Andrew, in 1475. The tower was plain, and had no bell, it was detached by nearly three feet from the body of the church. The woodcut is from a very old drawing of the principal entrance; inscribed over the doorway—

Psalmes the 122. I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the Lord.

Alex. Pearce. Phil. Dorent. Churchwardens, 1686.



Queen Anne presented this church with a Prayer-book, having the Service of the Healing, for the use of the parishioners; with the following presentation:—

To the Minister and Churchwardens of ye Churche of St. Andrew, in ye Island and Manor Royal of Portlande.

This Booke of Common Prayer, is given by commande of the Queen's Majestie to the above-named Church, for the use of the Ministers thereof.

ANNE R. NOTTINGHAM.

Hampton Courte,
May ye 8th, 1708.

The signatures are those of Her Majesty, and her principal Minister of State, but at what time it ceased to be a part of the church property is a question; it was however purchased recently at a book stall, by a gentleman, by whom it was sent to the Rev. David Hogarth, Rector of Portland, who has recently deposited it as a donation in the Portland County Museum.

From the Act of Parliament, 29 Geo. II., we learn

that this church was then in a ruinous condition, occasioned by several settlements in the foundation from time to time; further, that it was in a very dangerous situation, the cliff having fallen into the sea, by which the verge of the remaining part was within thirty-six feet of the foundation; upon these representations, the demolition of the old and much decayed church was commenced in 1754, and the materials used in the new one.

Dorchester, May 2. JOHN GARLAND.

TRADITION OF RICHARD THE THIRD'S BEDSTEAD.

A paragraph in Current Notes, p. 27, has recalled to my mind a circumstance communicated to me some years since, by an eminent English antiquary, respecting the bedstead on which Richard the Third slept, August 21, 1485, on the night previous to the battle of Bosworth Field, at the Blue Boar Inn, Leicester. The bedstead so occupied by the king, according to my informant, is still extant, the history of which, as related by Sir Roger Twysden, is not a little curious.

When King Richard marched into Leicestershire against Henry Earl of Richmond, he lay at the Blue Boar Inn, in the town of Leicester, where a large wooden bedstead, gilded in some places, after his defeat, the bedding being all taken from it, was either through haste, or as a thing of little value, left to the people of the house. Thenceforward this old bedstead, which was boarded at the bottom, as the manner was in those days, became a piece of standing furniture, and passed from tenant to tenant with the inn. This house, in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, was kept by one Clarke, who put a bed on this bedstead, which, his wife going to make hastily, and tumbling the bedstead, a piece of gold dropped out, this excited the woman's curiosity: she narrowly examined this piece of furniture, and finding it had a double bottom, took off the uppermost with a chisel, upon which she discovered the space between them filled with gold; part of it coined by King Richard III., and the rest in earlier times. Clarke concealed this good fortune, though by degrees the effect made it known, for from a low condition, he became rich, and in the space of a few years, Mayor of the town, and then the story of the bedstead came to be rumoured by the servants. At his death, he left his estate to his wife, who continued to keep the inn, though she was known to be very rich, which put some wicked persons upon engaging the maid-servant to assist in robbing her. These folks to the number of seven, lodged in the house, plundered it, and carried off some horse loads of valuable things, yet left a considerable quantity of valuables scattered about the floor. As for Mrs. Clarke, who was very fat, she endeavoured to cry out for help, upon which her maid thrust her fingers down her throat, and choaked her, for which act she was burnt, and the seven men who were her accomplices, were hanged at Leicester, some time in the year 1613.

In addition to the foregoing statement by Sir Roger Twysden, I have heard that the bedstead was subsequently possessed by one Alderman Drake; I am however of opinion, that it is not at all likely such a piece of furniture would or could be carried about, by a person like Richard III.; it is far more probable that it had been the best in the inn, and that the gold might have been secreted where it was subsequently discovered, by the king himself, to be available for his purposes after the battle.

Could Mr. Kelly, or any reader of Current Notes say what has become of this bedstead, or in whose possession it now remains?

King Richard's body after the battle, was, it is asserted, exposed for some time, and then buried in the church of the Grey Friars, in Leicester. It is also stated, that King Henry VII. bestowed a monument upon his rival, which, on the dissolution of religious houses by Henry VIII., was demolished, and Richard's stone coffin actually served for a horse trough, at the White Horse Inn, in Leicester.

Downpatrick, May 1. JAMES A. PILSON.

The tradition quoted by your correspondent, Mr. J. A. PILSON, is well known in this locality, and generally speaking is, in all its details, as an article of faith, popularly believed. Sir Roger Twysden, in his Decem Scriptores, 1652, first placed these assertions upon record; and he is said to have "had it from persons of undoubted credit, who were not only inhabitants of Leicester, but who saw the murderers executed," and from him, these assertions have been transmitted by subsequent writers, down to Miss Halstead, in whose biography of Richard III., they have been garnished by some *slight* poetical embellishments. The advance however that has been made of late years in the study of archæology, and the distinguished characteristics of architecture, furniture, and moveables, has been the means of exposing many falsely supposed reliques, and the so long vaunted King Richard the Third's bedstead is among the number. Among the most prominent of those who expressed their doubts on the subject, was Mr. J. G. Nichols, who, proceeding to the opposite extreme, in an article some years since in the Gentleman's Magazine, and more recently in the Literary Remains of Mr. J. S. Hardy, edited by him, endeavoured to prove that the whole tradition, which rested solely on the authority of Sir Roger Twysden, was nothing more than "an old wife's tale," nay, that the king never slept at the Blue Boar at all; and still more, that there was no such inn at Leicester.

Without attempting a thorough investigation of these assertions, I shall content myself with noticing the more salient points of the story, and of Mr. Nichols's doubts. That the Blue Boar Inn at Leicester, was well known in the reign of Queen Elizabeth there are ample documentary proofs; whilst the traditionary story of the murder of Mrs. Clarke, has since the publication of Mr. Nichols's denial of the fact, been confirmed in the main relation, by the discovery in the Borough Muniment Room, of the original depositions of the witnesses in the case, taken before the Justices of the Peace, at the time of the murder. From these documents, the following facts are derived:—

Shortly before Christmas, 1603, one Thomas Harrison came out of Staffordshire to Leicester, and lodged

for several days at the Blue Boar Inn, then kept by Mrs. Clarke. He there fell in speech with Alice Grumbold, a maid of the house, in the way of marriage. Whereupon, she told him, "her mistress had great store of money in her house, and bade him come again some night and bring a secret friend with him she might trust, and there would be means made to get some of her money." Harrison proceeded to Lichfield, and took into his confidence Adam Bonus, who communicated the plan of the robbery to one Edward Bradshaw, and they arranged to meet at Leicester, and carry it into effect. Accordingly, Harrison and Bradshaw, on Friday, February 1, 1604, rode to Leicester, and on the following day, they removed with their horses to the Blue Boar Inn, lay there all night, and staid all day, on Sunday. In the mean time Bonus, who had appointed to meet the others at the Blue Boar, came on Saturday to Leicester, and after some conversation with Alice Grumbold, in the absence of Harrison and Bradshaw, determined not to take part in the intended robbery; and in fact after the murder, he turned 'king's evidence.'

The particulars of the murder are these—Alice Grumbold deposed, that about ten o'clock on Sunday night, Feb. 3, she and her fellow servant, Waters, went into the stable with provender for the horses, and that Bradshaw and Harrison followed them; she then went to the well to draw water for the horses, Bradshaw at the same time returning to the house, where they had left the mistress all alone. On returning to the stable, she found her fellow-servant bound, and Harrison, doubtless according to previous arrangement, seized and bound her also. She was soon however, unbound, and seemingly by force taken by them into the house, to open her mistress's coffers, the first of which was full of linen; the second, full of writings; and the third, contained money. From this last, they took out several bags of money, most of which, having previously brought out their horses, they fastened to the pommels of their saddles. Alice would gladly have gone away with them, whereat they swore "by God's wounds, if thou comest with us, thou wilt both hang us and thyself." They then took her into the hall, and there bound her; Harrison at the same time gave her a linen cloth, wherein was money and other things, and said he would in ten days, come again, to fetch her and it. The money she had was 42*l.* 17*s.*, beside two silver rings, and a gold ring. In her second examination, she added, that after she was left bound in the chimney in the hall, her legs not being fast bound, she got up, and went into the buttery to see how her mistress did, where, being unable to get out again, she lay till morning, when one of the neighbours came into the house to light a candle, and unbound her. Beside the plunder carried off, it appears there were seven or eight bags of 'money or gold,' and certain plate were left behind on Mrs. Clarke's bed. As to the actual perpetration of the murder, no direct evidence appears, possibly the account as narrated by Sir Roger Twisden, may be the fact, and the circumstance of the maid's choaking her mistress, may probably be true. Harrison declared that "for his part he did Mrs. Clarke no harm, nor did so much as think to kill or hurt her, but what Bradshaw did he knew not; for to his knowledge, she was living at their going away." He added, Alice Grumbold, "the maid, was the only setter of the match, for they had not dealt therein but by her procurement." She however protested, that although she could not clear herself from the robbery and consenting thereto, she was clear from the murder of her mistress, and asserted "in her conscience Bradshaw did murder her."

The plunder borne off by these robbers was never recovered, they declared they did not know what the bags contained, silver or gold, for in their flight, it was hidden by them in the bank of a ditch near Pooley park, in Warwickshire, but they believed, if it consisted of silver, there was from three to five hundred pounds. Being apprehended on some other charge and imprisoned, Bradshaw, through the instrumentality of Lord Stafford,* was bailed, and on his going to the ditch side for the money, found it had been removed.

They were subsequently apprehended on the charge of the murder of Mrs. Clarke, and brought to Leicester. The result of the trial appears on record among our Hall papers, in the following notice, on a slip of parchment:—

'Our Assizes holden at Leicester upon Tuesday, March 25, 1606, before Sir Peter Warburton, Knt.; at which Assizes Edward Bradshaw was executed for murthering Mrs. Clarke, and Alice Grumbolde burned for the same murther.' Harrison's fate is not recorded.

Twysden, it is evident, errs in the date assigned by him, and two, not seven men were concerned with the maid Alice, in this diabolical act. The particulars advanced however establish the tradition as based on fact.

The story of King Richard's bedstead, and the discovery of the treasure secreted within it, rests wholly on tradition. That, now recognized as King Richard's bedstead, is indisputably a fine specimen of the late Elizabethan style, and has no concurrent similitude with those constructed more than a century before. Twysden's statement that "from a low condition Clarke soon became rich, and in the course of a few years, Mayor of the Town," would seem to be a recapitulation of some locally accredited belief, while it affords no evidence as to the discovery of the gold in the way related by those who placed credence in the tradition. Thomas Clarke mine host of the Blue Boar Inn, from the mode in which the money and valuables was garnered by Mrs. Clarke, was possibly of thrifty habit, might have inherited property from relations, or from his long and constant success as an innkeeper; still, certain it is that Thomas Clarke was mayor of Leicester, in 1598-9, and was an illiterate character, unable to subscribe his name. By his will, dated June 15, 1603, he bequeathed part of his property to charitable uses, and died a few days later in that month. Search has been made in the Archdeaconry Court for his will, in the hope that the inventory attached to it would afford some fact illustrative of the history of

* Edward Stafford, the third baron, who died in 1625.

the bedstead, but the roll for that year is missing. These facts are suggestive, that Clarke during his mayoralty might have had this bedstead constructed for his use; and on his year of official greatness expiring, it was moved to his inn. The murder of his widow in February, 1604, doubtless placed the inn in other hands, and they possibly to draw custom created the fable of Richard having sought repose in that inn, and as any bedstead would answer the purpose, exhibited that on which possibly the ex-mayor died in 1603. This was a period of poetical fancies, the story of Dick Whittington and his Cat had its origin at this time; these romances spread far and wide, and were as eagerly credited by all classes of persons, the more incredible and strange they were in their purport, they were found to be vastly more agreeable, and in some panegyrical lines by an anonymous writer, prefixed to Tom Coryate's Crudities, printed in 1611; there are recounted among the 'penny sights' then popular in England, in London, and elsewhere, the following:—

The lance of John o'Gaunt, and Brandon's still i'the Tower,
The fall of Nineveh, and Norwich built in an hower;
King Henry's slip shoes, the sword of valiant Edward,
The Coventry Boare's shield, and fireworks seen but to bedward:
Drake's ship at Deptford, *King Richard's bed sted i'Leyster*,
The White Hall whale bones, the silver bason i'Chester.

The bedstead, after having been for several generations in the family of Babington, of Rothley, has lately passed by purchase into the possession of W. Perry Herrick, Esq., of Beaumanor Park, in this county.

There are some other curious matters connected with the subject which would have been worth noting, irrespective of King Richard; among them, the charge of treason, which a few years previously had been brought against Mrs. Clarke, when Mayoress, for having said, 'the Queen deserved a rope, etc.,' as also, the particulars of the attempt to procure by bribery, through Lord Stafford, a pardon for Bradshaw.

Leicester, May 10. WILLIAM KELLY.

SHAKESPEARE'S BARDOLPH AND PISTOL.

The muster-roll of artillerymen serving under Humphrey Fitz-Allan, Earl of Arundel, at the siege of St. Laurens des Mortiers, dated Nov. 11, 1435, contained the names of R. Bardoulf, and Will. Pistail. Qu. were these the originals of Shakespeare's Bardolph and Pistol?

VESPASIAN.—The March number of Current Notes, p. 27, notices the discovery of a gold coin of Vespasian at Inveresk; the legend on the reverse, reading COS ITER TR. POT. Last month, another of identically the same type, and in fine condition, was dug up on the site of a camp near Hawick. The fact of these two coins being discovered within three weeks, in different parts of Scotland, appears to be deserving of note.

Edinburgh. BARRON GRAHAME, F.S.A., Scotland.

STONE CARVING IN GLASGOW CATHEDRAL.

Your Correspondent's notice in Current Notes, p. 39, of the curious corbel in Brechin cathedral, reminds me of a stone carving in one of the crypts of the cathedral at Glasgow; and at this time when the north-landers are apparently about to repair their beautiful church, it may not be altogether useless to caution them not to deal too carelessly with the fragmentary stones lying in the crypts, now wisely left there for inspection, and perhaps might be so placed, that visitors might study them with more convenience.

The stone, of which the enclosed is a correct sketch—

has been noticed by the Rev. R. S. Hawker, in Current Notes, 1855, p. 42, where he with great probability supposes it to represent evil spirits preying on a soul in purgatory. I only regret, that the carving alone can convey the frightful expression of the countenance of the unhappy victim.

What the destination and object of this singular fragment may have been, it is difficult to determine; it is probable, however, that some of the readers of your periodical may be able to inform me.

T. H. PATTISON.

NOTES BY A NUMISMATIST.

ROMAN MINT AT ARLES CALLED CONSTANTINA.

In the Sale Catalogue of the Collection of the late Mr. H. P. Borrell, of Smyrna, to lot 834, consisting of twenty-five varieties of third brass coins of the period of the Constantine Family, is the following note—

On one of the coins of Fausta, the exergual or mint letters are CONS. The Baron Marchant remarked a similar example, which he thought singular, because Fausta died before Byzantium was called Constantinople; but the late Mr. Borrell, in his numismatic correspondence with the writer, expressed an opinion that these coins were struck at Arles; for Le Beau, in his History of the Lower empire, expressly tells us that in 316, Constantine visited Gaul, and having conferred many benefits upon the City of Arles, it took the name of Constantine in gratitude to its benefactor; moreover, Constantine Junior, the eldest son of Constantine and Fausta, was born there in the same year, or fourteen years before Byzantium was called Constantinople. As to these coins having been struck in her honour, *after* her death, except indeed by her sons, that is not probable.

The desire to direct attention to this note, has induced me to transcribe it, in order to avail myself of the occasion to add, that I have recently obtained a coin of Crispus, of the same module, with precisely the same letters on the exergue of the reverse—a discovery, which in my opinion, goes far undoubtedly to corroborate the probability of the hypothesis here suggested.

ST. ANDREW PENNY OF EGBERT, KING OF WESSEX.

Among the numismatic treasures of the Anglo-Saxon period in the National Collection, is a penny assigned to Egbert, king of Wessex, the first so called sole monarch of England. The coin having on the obverse, the portrait of the king, with the legend ECGBEORHT ·RE, and on the reverse, the legend + SCS ANDREAI is engraved in Hawkins' Silver Coins of England, plate XII., fig. 158; and at p. 55, it is simply described type 7, without comment.

The peculiarity, however of the legend on the reverse, induced Mr. Haigh to suggest that as the cathedral of Rochester is dedicated to St. Andrew, the coin was probably minted at that city after the battle of Ellandene in 823, when Egbert routed the Mercians, and followed up his victory by the conquest of the tributary kingdom of Kent.

Mr. Haigh's hypothesis it must be observed, rests entirely on the assumption that the name of St. Andrew bears relation to the city in which the coin was struck; but, even assuming that fact as a basis of classification, it must be borne in mind that the cathedral of Wells in Somersetshire was *also* dedicated to St. Andrew; and in reference to that fine old structure, that it was built by Ina, king of the West Saxons, and that several other of the West Saxon kings endowed it. It may therefore be fairly presumed, that as Wells was situated within the original territories of Egbert, the coin in question is much more likely to have been struck there, than at Rochester, a city that was only acquired by conquest, in the twenty-fourth year of the reign of the monarch whose effigy and name it bears.

May 9. M. B.

NOTES ON THE AUTHOR OF WAVERLEY.

I have been again much gratified by perusing the second letter of Sir Walter Scott, printed in Current Notes, pp. 21, 22.* Mr. Ellis presented to me, the copy of the Poems by Bedingfeld and Pickering, which I still possess. Probably, the most attractive piece in the volume is the fragment of Scottish Song, said to have been written by the latter, beginning—

Keen blaws the wind o'er Donnocht head;

it attracted the notice of Burns, who observed he would have given ten pounds to have been the author. About 1842, several letters passed between the late Captain Charles Gray and myself on this subject, whence an abstract may be seen at p. 373, of the Book of Scottish Song, printed for Blackie and Son, at Glasgow, in 1843. The lyric is there printed with some additional lines by my correspondent. George Pickering was born in or about 1758, at Simonburn, in Northumberland. In 1777, he was clerk to Mr. Davidson, solicitor in Newcastle, and shortly after, had the management of the Stamp-Office for Northumberland, Newcastle and Berwick; but being unfortunate, he quitted the north of England, and after residing some time in Norfolk, in 1798 he went abroad. Twenty-five years afterward, he returned to Newcastle, and resided with his sister, at Chimney-Mills, where he died in 1826. He was buried toward the west corner of the churchyard at Lamesley, in the County of Durham, where a stone bears this inscription—

Sacred to the Memory of
GEORGE PICKERING,
Son of
GEORGE PICKERING, OF SIMONBURN,
who departed this life, 28th July, 1826,
Aged 68 years.
Erected by his sister ELIZABETH PICKERING,
from motives of true affection to her
much beloved and esteemed brother.

Every communication written by Sir Walter Scott possesses to me great attraction, and I look forward with much interest to the letters which will appear in Current Notes, connected with his membership of the Newcastle-upon-Tyne Society of Antiquaries, and the Border Minstrelsy. I am also glad to perceive Mr. Maidment contributing to Current Notes; like Mr. David Laing, of the Signet Library, Edinburgh, what he has done in the field of Scottish Literary Antiquities, awakens the desire that he would do still more. His letter is valuable, and has my cordial approval as to Scott being the author of the Waverley Novels. As a further proof of the correctness of his views on this point, I may relate what Mr. Ellis, of Otterburn, told me himself.

On Sept. 25, 1812, Mr. Scott, for he was not then a baronet, visited Mr. Ellis, at Otterburn.* He was on his way to Rokeby, and occupied in the composition of his poem of that name. Mrs. Scott and two children were with him, and they remained at Otterburn for one night only. Next morning Mr. Ellis accompanied his distinguished guest on the road through Woodburn, when they walked over the Roman station of Habitancum, commonly called Risingham, and ascending the hill to the south-east, they saw the figure of Robin of Redesdale sculptured on the face of a huge stone, which Scott examined with great attention. The result of the observations made that morning, may be seen in Rokeby. Subsequently, when the stone bearing the figure was

* If, in Current Notes, p. 14, I was mistaken in the observation relative to the Lines on North Tyne, I was led to the error from Scott's mention of Drayton, to whose principal work, the Marriage of the Coquet and Alwine has direct reference, and none whatever to the lines in question. I also overlooked Mr. Fenwick's tract, and now thank E. H. A., for the light he has thrown upon the subject.

* To this visit I have alluded more particularly in the History of the Battle of Otterburn, now in the press.

broken, Mr. Ellis communicated all the particulars to Mr. Scott, to which the latter replied, dealing out some sarcastic remarks on the perpetrator of the deed. Nothing more on this matter transpired till 1819, when on the publication of Ivanhoe, Mr. Ellis by referring to Scott's letter, detected towards the close of the Introductory Epistle to that novel, clear and most conclusive proof that he alone was the author.

In these early days, I well remember with what avidity, I read every work that came from the hand of the Great Minstrel. After perusing all his poetry to which I had access, and duly weighing in my own mind, the writer's remarkable genius, on reading the novels, I had not the slightest doubt, they emanated from the same source. In his prose fictions, Scott commanded a wider stage for the performance of his dramatis personæ, introducing many peculiar characters who became known to him among his own countrymen, and who were suitable for a novel, though unfit for a poem. But the same careful individuality was in each preserved—the same creative power every where evident; the effective grouping together of all ranks, and the appropriate names employed—the striking force of the descriptive portions, and above all, in every instance, the complement and framing of a tale that every reader could comprehend, were not to be mistaken. In short, judging from what I saw of current literature, my opinion was that no other individual of the time could have produced them.

Retrospectively glancing over the circumstance of Scott's frequent denial of being the author, we ought to remember, that he was not only possessed of profound sagacity, but that he was a very proud man. In his day, none could better fathom the human mind both in its strength and weakness, and being aware how public curiosity becomes excited in proportion to the impenetrable silence with which a great secret is kept, this very point told most effectively on the popularity of these works of fiction. Again, as he himself said, he was by birth, a gentleman, and if it was openly avowed he wrote novels, the circumstance might detract from his dignity. In this respect, he was not alone, for about the commencement of the seventeenth century, a still greater man, alluding to the plays he had written, which ultimately crowned him with immortal honour, observed—

> Thence comes it that my name receives a brand,
> And almost thence my nature is subdued
> To what it works in, like the dyer's hand:

so, the dread of such debasement undoubtedly influenced Scott to keep his own counsel when he wrote the Novels; and he seems to have made up his mind to repel most pointedly every attempt of prying impertinence to get beyond him. When his position in a business point of view rendered longer concealment impossible, he gave way; but had this not occurred, and had it not been that those works had then acquired a world-wide fame, the probability is, that he had never confessed the authorship; and when he mildly allowed the mask to be withdrawn, his unfading laurels were already won—they encircled the venerable temples and white hairs of that old man, whom to have seen was almost worth a king's ransom, and who hath left behind him a lesson impressive as Solomon's of the vanity of terrestrial things.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, May 9. ROBERT WHITE.

Scott's having abandoned poetical description for prose narrative, as a wider field for display of character appears never to have led to any attempt of a drama for theatrical representation, of which it would seem he entertained some dread. On the rebuilding of Drury Lane Theatre, among other projects of the proprietary for points of attractive advertisement, was one of obtaining at any cost, a play from the Northern Bard; and Elliston was deputed to make the application; it failed wholly. Scott in January, 1812, after five years gratuitous service as a clerk of Session entered upon the salary attached of 1300*l.* a-year; and might therefore be considered as less anxious to profit by the produce of his pen, but on the contrary, it appears to have been a settled principle that led to the avoidance of all association with the drama, as the autograph letter addressed to Elliston, and now before the writer, is conclusive evidence.

Sir,—I am favour'd with your letter, and am much obliged to you for the polite expressions it contains, as well as for your supposing me capable of advancing in any degree, the dramatic art, or the advantage of its professors. As I am very fond of the Stage, which is the only public amusement that I ever indulge in, I have at times, from my own inclination, or at the solicitation of friends, partial like yourself, to my other productions been tempted to consider the subject your letter proposes to me. But upon a mature consideration of my own powers such as they are, and of the probable consequences of any attempt to write for the Theatre, which might fall short of complete success, I have come to the determination of declining every overture of the kind, of which I have received several.

I therefore have only to express my regret that it is not in my power to assist your exertions, which I have no doubt, the public favour, and your own talents, will render successful without such aid, and I am very glad, I have been indirectly the means of supplying new subjects for your Theatre, and am very much,

Sir, your obedient servant,

Edinb. January 6, 1812. WALTER SCOTT.

IPSWICH TOWN ARMORIAL INSIGNIA.

I enclose drawings, with rubbings of the arms of Ipswich, from monumental brasses in the churches of that Town.

The arms on these examples are differently represented, and yet not one is in accordance with the description of the coat particularized in Clarencieux's confirmation in 1561; if that record was correctly

copied, of this fact however, no means of ascertaining remains, as the original is believed to have been long since destroyed. Harvey's confirmation, printed wholly in Current Notes, October, 1855, p. 80; describes the lion rampant as regardant. Possibly, it would be of interest to notice this addition to the Curiosities of Heraldry, and therefore, with the drawings and rubbings, have attached an heraldic description of each shield.

I. Arms of Ipswich, from the brass in the church of St. Mary Tower; of Thomas Drayle, Portman, 1500.

Per pale, three demi-lions guardant in pale, joined to as many demi-hulks of ships.

I.

II.

II. Arms of Ipswich, from the brass in the church of St. Mary Key; of Thomas Pownder, 1525.

The Pownder brass in mode of emblazonment bears conclusive evidence of its foreign fabrication. Only one demi-hull appears on the shield, and the coat is reversed, in order apparently to turn the lion towards the centre of the subject, a perversion not unfrequently assumed in Flemish, German, and other continental heraldry.

III. Arms of Ipswich, also in the church of St. Mary Key, on the brass of Henry Toolye, 1551.

Party per pale; on the dexter side, a lion rampant guardant; on the sinister, three demi-hulls joined to the impaled line.

The arms as described in the confirmation by William Harvey Clarencieux, August 22, 1561, are—

Party per pale gules and azure; in the first, a lion rampant regardant, gold armed and langued azure; in the second, three demy-botes of the third.

III.

IV.

IV. Arms of Ipswich, in the church of St. Clement, on the brass of John Toye, 1583.

Per pale; in the dexter, a lion rampant; on the sinister, three demi-hulls joined to the impaled line.

Lee Road, Blackheath. J. J. Howard.

COLONIAL PUBLIC LIBRARIES.

A letter dated Melbourne, Feb. 16, affords some intimation of the progress of the public free library of Australia.

On Monday, the 11th inst., the public library was opened by his Excellency, the officer administering the Government. It is a free library, and we owe its existence to the exertions of Judge Barry, one of the Judges of the Supreme Court. He took the Legislature in time when the revenue had increased from less than 300,000*l.*, to more than three millions, and people thought it never would come to an end. He thus obtained money for the building, and for about three thousand volumes. Last year, there was a vote for 3000*l.*, but it lapsed for want of money. This year, that sum is again on the estimates, and as the colony is flourishing, and the revenue is improving, the amount will no doubt be voted and paid. The best colonial library is at Cape Town, but an annual payment for admission is required. The library at Quebec, is also good, but that is not free. Ours will be emphatically a public institution, and I fully expect that in eight or ten years, it will be the finest colonial library under the British Crown. That of the Legislative Council also presents the beginning of a splendid library—but that will of course be confined to the members of both Houses. We adopt the American custom of a joint library instead of the English custom of a library for each House.

FEMININE DELUSION.

The enclosed letter was written by Lord Eldon, in reply to one addressed to him by the aged wife of a Yorkshire Vicar, whose husband had long been engaged in a vexatious Tithe suit in Chancery. The request was to aid her by moving on the slow machinery of that very slow court—she, poor woman, thought that as she was a native of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, and had known and visited the Scott family there, the member of that family who then occupied the Woolsack, would for the sake of Newcastle, etc., use his influence in some powerful manner, to drive on Chancery to decide the case. To enable her husband to carry on the suit, her private property had been mortgaged, and the family had suffered greatly in consequence of the protracted litigation—she therefore in the anguish of her mind wrote the letter to the Chancellor, which drew from him the enclosed reply.

Madam—I have received your letter. With respect to making any application to Lord Lyndhurst, it cannot be made by me; I am sure that as a Judge, he would not permit me to have any conversation with him, relative to a cause which may come judicially before him; and having myself been long in a judicial situation, I could not permit myself to speak to him upon such a subject.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer has nothing to do with anything respecting Tithes. Lord Lyndhurst is the Lord Chief Baron of the Exchequer, who, with other Judges hears Tithe Causes, but no Judge will permit himself to be told anything respecting a cause but in open Court.

I am, Madam,

Your obedt. Servt.

Eldon.

I may add, that the dilatoriness of the reverend gen-

tleman's country solicitors, was the cause of much delay; but as soon after the receipt of Lord Eldon's letter, the cause was decided, the old lady fancied her missive had had its effect, and thought he had after all looked to the matter in some way, and had somehow done something to frighten the legal men to bring it to a close.

Grammar School, Norton. WILLIAM R. BELL.

ANGELS VISITS.—Campbell wrote the Pleasures of Hope when very young, and he may possibly have been indebted to Blair's Grave for the expression—

> Like Angel visits few and far between;

yet both Blair and Campbell may have derived the sentiment from an earlier writer, John Norris, who died in 1711, in whose Transient Delights, occur these lines—

> How fading are the joys we doat upon
> Like apparitions seen and gone:
> But those which soonest take their flight
> Are the most exquisite and strong—
> Like Angel visits short and bright,
> Mortality's too weak to bear them long.

Woburn, May 2. B. B. W.

AMADIS DE GAULA.

A friend of mine in Spain has sent me notes of some additional editions of the Spanish romances, which I communicate as supplementary to those forwarded in February last. These editions are all in folio, and I hope those gentlemen in England, who have other editions will give an account of them in your Current Notes.

I.—IV. Amadis de Gaula,	Sevilla 1531, 1535, 1539, 1565, 1586.
——	Medina del Campo, 1545.
——	Lavagna, 1551.
V. Esplandian,	Toledo, 1521.
——	Salamanca, 1525.
——	Burgos, 1587.
VIII. Lisuarte de Grecia,	Sevilla, 1548, 1550.
——	No place or date.
IX. Amadis de Grecia,	Valencia, 1582.
——	No place or date.
X. Florisel de Niquea,	Sevilla, 1546.
——	Saragoza, 1568.
——	Tarragona, 1584.
XII. Silves de la Selva,	Sevilla 1549.

Another friend writes that in the library at Vienna, are the following editions:—

I.—IV. Amadis de Gaula,	Sevilla, 1586.
VIII. Lisuarte de Grecia,	Zaragoça, 1587.
XI. Rogel de Grecia,	Salamanca, 1551.
XII. Silves de la Selva,	Salamanca, 1551.

Ticknor quotes the edition of Esplandian, Burgos, 1587; and Mr. Julius, the German translator of Ticknor, notices the edition of Florisel de Niquea, Tarragona, 1584, as having been seen by him,

Some curious questions arise from the dates of these editions, which I hope to discuss in a future letter.

Middle Hill. T. PHILLIPPS.

EARLY MERCHANT'S MARKS.

The merchants of the middle ages, however wealthy, were not permitted to assume heraldic insignia, and thus rival the dignity of the gentry, they therefore universally adopted symbolic devices, as marks to distinguish their bales of merchandise, and these marks are at times found delineated on shields, resembling in form those upon which the heralds emblazoned their representative fancies. Hence many an old tomb and church window is found decorated with frequently a very ingenious amalgamation of threaded forms and tracery, at times so complex as almost to baffle elucidation.

The enclosed inscription and merchant's mark is a mural memorial brass, 1586, in the church of St. Mary Magdalene, in Old Fish Street. No name is mentioned, but I presume it commemorates Thomas Berry, Fishmonger, who "gave a messuage in Southwark, called the Red Cross, with its appurtenances to the poor of the parish for ever."

> In God the Lord put all your truste
> Repente your former wicked waies
> Elizabeth our Quene most iuste
> Blesse her o Lorde in all her daies
> So Lord encrease good Councelers
> And preachers off his holie worde
> Mislike off all papistes desiers
> O Lord cut them off with thy sworde
> How small soever the gifte shalbe
> Thanke God for him who gave it thee

XII penie loves to XII poore foulkes
Geve everie sabothe day for aye.

Lee Road, Blackheath. J. J. H.

FIERY BULL.—Who was the person referred to as "the Fiery Bull of Colchester," in the following title—

Ten necessary Queries touching the Personal Treatie; also a right description of a Cavalier; with some drops to quench the Fiery Bull of Colchester, by JAMES TASWELL, a True Lover of King, Parliament, Truth and Peace, 1648.

I have read the copy at the British Museum, but that does not shew who was meant by the Fiery Bull?

May 13. ENQUIRER.

As the tract is evidently written by a royalist, possibly the designation of 'the Fiery Bull' applies to Fairfax, who refused all personal treaty with the besieged commanders.

BOLINGBROKE'S MISTRESS.—On what authority is it stated in Current Notes, 1855, p. 64, that Lady Bath had been Bolingbroke's Mistress? Lady Bath was a Miss Gumley, daughter of John Gumley, Esq., of Isleworth; a large fortune, she was the sister of the wife of Francis Colman, Minister at Florence; and Pope's verses upon her imply the very reverse of any *levity* of character. C.

WILLIS'S CURRENT NOTES.

No. LXVI.] "Takes note of what is done— By note, to give and to receive."—SHAKESPEARE. [JUNE, 1856.

WHO WROTE THE WAVERLEY NOVELS?

When nearly five-and-twenty years have elapsed since the decease of the reputed author of the Waverley Novels, the stillness of the grave is at length disturbed by the appearance of some uselessly detractive inquiries, the purport of which is professedly to prove that Scott's brother Thomas Scott was the writer of The Antiquary, a considerable contributor to other novels, and that many admirable characters and delineations were the every day productions of his singularly gifted wife, Bessie Scott; and that Walter Scott, simply conducted them through the press, and had no claim, or at best only an assumed one, to the being considered the author. These inquiries have been submitted to the discernment of the admirers of Sir Walter Scott, in a pamphlet entitled—

Who Wrote the Waverley Novels? being an Investigation into certain Mysterious Circumstances attending their production, and an Inquiry into the Literary Aid which Sir Walter Scott may have received from other persons, 1856, pp. 88.

The bases on which Mr. Fitzpatrick founds this investigation, are the *on dit* printed in the Morning Chronicle, May 23, 1817—Mr. Walter Scott is said to be the author of the critique in the 'Tales of my Landlord' in the Quarterly Review, and it is insinuated in the concluding paragraph, that his brother is the writer of the novels which have made so strong an impression on the public mind.* Also, 'the very remarkable letter' as Mr. Fitzpatrick terms it, that is said to have appeared in the Quebec Herald, July 15, 1820. The letter dated York, observe not New York, Dec. 12, 1818, commences—

With respect to these new publications, Rob Roy, &c., I have no hesitation in saying I believe them to be the production of the Scotts. I say the Scotts, because Mr. Thomas Scott (who wrote the principal part of them) was often assisted by Mrs. Scott, and the works were generally revised by his brother Walter before going to press. "The Antiquary" I can answer for particularly, because Mr. Thomas Scott told me himself that he wrote it, a very few days after it appeared in this country. Any person who had the least intimacy with the paymaster would at once recognise him as the author of these celebrated works. The same native humour, the same cast of expression, and that intimate acquaintance with Scottish manners and the Scottish annals, which are almost in every page of those works, could be traced in his conversation by any person of the least observation. Besides this, I have often heard Mrs. Scott describe the very originals from whom the principal characters are drawn. The Antiquary himself was an intimate acquaintance of the paymaster; his name I have now forgotten, but he lived in Dumfries, and that finely drawn character, Dominie Sampson was an old college acquaintance. Flora M'Ivor's character was written by Mrs. Scott herself. I have seen several of the manuscripts, in Mr. Scott's possession, of his other works, but I do not recollect seeing any of the novels in manuscript except the Antiquary. I am pretty certain that it is his own handwriting.

The letter has been adopted at length, simply to aver that it is wholly untrue. Walter's younger brother Thomas was the helter-skelter devil-may-care fellow of the lot, his rattling loquacious vivacity, at all times seemed conclusive that he alone monopolised all the genius and spirit of the family, while Walter was apparently of a dull temperament, his youth did not exhibit the dawn even, of the sunshine of the after-day that was to eternise the distinction of his family, and to render familiar as household words to future generations the characters and language of his Scottish descriptive poems and novels. Those who entertain any doubts as to Walter Scott being the author of the Waverley Novels, should first learn the peculiarities in position and disposition of that singularly extraordinary man and writer, before they too readily adopt a false conclusion. Nothing of Thomas Scott remains in his writing to establish any or the smallest claims to his being a contributor wholly or in part to the Waverley Novels; doubtless the persons who figured in the novels, were as well known to Thomas as to Walter, and when they became public property by their peculiarities being graphically delineated in the printed novels, 'the Scotts' pleasurably stated that they too knew them personally. Let this also be remembered, that Thomas Scott, was a reckless *bon vivant*, and as regards the interests of the family, it was well the Atlantic divided them—his excesses for the last four or five years of his life precluded his holding the pen with any steadiness, and Bessie Scott at her desk, was more often busied on the official papers of her husband, than in writing letters, however

* Investigation, p. 50.—The admission here said to have been made by Scott, is repudiated by his flat denial that Thomas Scott wrote the whole or any part of the novels; and again in a letter to Richardson, Jan. 18, 1819, Scott, in reference to the attempt made by the wife of one of the Edinburgh judges to ascertain the author of the Waverley Novels, wrote—"I gave in dilatory defences, under protestation, to add and eik; in plain words I denied the charge; and as she insisted to know who else could write these novels, I suggested Adam Ferguson, as a person having all the information and capacity necessary for that purpose." Ibid. p. 30. The fact was, there were so many concomitant circumstances all tending to prove Scott the author of the novels, that in the face of his broad denial, it was difficult to know in what manner to treat his assertions.

joyously indited, to her brother-in-law, the now questioned author of Waverley.* Yet, it cannot be denied, that much of what is now passing was originally promulgated by the assertions and prevarications of Walter Scott. When the natural furor of his intellect streamed forth, he found it difficult to restrain himself within ordinary bounds, he wrote, and once for all, if he attempted to amend, he injured what he had written, the stream became more muddy than before, and once printed, the subject was rarely honoured by himself with a re-perusal—no matter whatever his after professions of editorial revision were, like the cobbler's wife that went unshod, his writings lacked the promised revisal, however they might be called for or suggested. It was not in him to bear the being thwarted; in matters of business his probity was ever unquestionable, but in literary points, he held all assertions as fictions, he could disguise truth in a joke, and reduce a moral axiom to a bon-mot.

His earlier poems from their novelty were highly attractive, and his Lady of the Lake carried off the public acclaim by storm, but

No morning sun lasts a whole day;

the public appetite cloyed, and Rokeby, published early in 1813, was comparatively a failure: its success was unequivocally acknowledged to be greatly inferior to the Lady of the Lake. It was even said that Rokeby was only entitled to notice from its having the name of the author on the title page. The Bridal of Triermain, without his name, followed in March, 1813, and passed wholly unnoticed. He determined on abandoning poetry for prose, and by publishing anonymously, or under a pseudonyme, divert the public attention from himself, and in the autumn of 1813, having found the fragment of Waverley that had been thrown aside since 1805, the manuscript having at that time been unfavourably commented on by a critical friend, he finished it according to his own conception, and the following is Scott's own version of its appearance:—

Waverley was published in 1814, and as the title page was without the name of the author, the work was left to win its way in the world without any of the usual recommendations. Its progress was for some time slow; but after the first two or three months, its popularity increased in a degree which must have satisfied the expectations of the author had these been far more sanguine than he ever entertained.

Great anxiety was expressed to learn the name of the author, but on this no authentic information could be attained. My original motive for publishing the work anonymously was the consciousness that it was an experiment on the public taste, which might very probably fail, and therefore there was no occasion to take on myself the personal risk of discomfiture. For this purpose, considerable precautions were used to preserve secrecy. My old friend and schoolfellow, Mr. James Ballantyne, who printed these novels, had the exclusive task of corresponding with the author, who thus had not only the advantage of his professional talents, but of his critical abilities. The original manuscript, or as it is technically called *copy* was transcribed by confidential persons under Mr. Ballantyne's eye, nor was there an instance of treachery during the many years in which these precautions were resorted to, although various individuals were employed at different times. Double proof sheets were regularly printed off. One was forwarded to the author by Mr. Ballantyne, and the alterations which it received by his hand, were copied upon the other proof sheet for the use of the printers, so that even the corrected proofs of the author were never seen in the printing office, and thus the curiosity of such eager inquirers as made the most minute investigation was entirely at fault.

Among other unfounded reports, it has been said that the copyright was during the book's progress through the press, offered for sale to various booksellers in London at a very inconsiderable price. This was not the case. Messrs. Constable and Cadell who published the work, were the only persons acquainted with the contents of the publication, and they offered a large sum for it, while in the course of printing, which however was declined, the author not choosing to part with the copyright.

Byron, in a letter to Murray, dated July 24, 1814, wrote—"Waverley is the best and most interesting novel I have redde since—I don't know when." The reviewers, notwithstanding all Scott's endeavours to evade detection, were however on the right scent—"We have heard this romance ascribed to a bard of the first order, and there seems to be sufficient internal evidence to warrant a belief that the report is accurate."* The fact appears to have escaped Mr. Fitzpatrick, that the son of Joseph Strutt the antiquary, then and since loudly asserted Scott produced Waverley from the manuscripts which his father had submitted to him for perusal. One among the many reasons which are urged why Scott was not the author of the Waverley Novels, is, that at Abbotsford he was hospitable in the highest degree, and so fully entered into all their field diversions and other amusements, that he himself seemed more the votary of pleasure than as one solicitous of the opportunity of retirement, for his literary avocations, yet this apparent waste of time was but assumed, and intended to baffle even the closest observer, for while Waverley was passing through the press, in his letter to James Bal-

* A correspondent to Current Notes writes—My mind has long ago been made up on the question, and certainly I should dislike being drawn into any controversy on the point at issue, considering that such a step would swallow up most unprofitably very much precious time.

Scott possessed marvellous facility in writing, and when we learn he kept at it, four, five, or six hours a day, what he did is only consistent with such labour. He was one of a remarkable family. The mother, now deceased, of an intimate friend of mine, was full cousin to Sir Walter. She had borne him when he was a child in her arms, and though she was far advanced in life, and by no means was either a learned, or what is called a book read woman, yet I have heard her relate anecdote and family occurrences in such a copious yet perfectly correct manner, that it was truly wonderful. A short-hand writer might have taken down and printed every word she spoke, and the most fastidious proof-reader could not possibly have improved what she said, or detected a single false or redundant word in the whole.

* New Monthly Magazine, Sept. 1814, p. 156.

lantyne, dated Sept. 2, 1813, he thus bitterly complained of these obstructions—"My temper is nearly worn to a hair's breadth. The intruder of yesterday hung on me till twelve to-day. When I had just taken my pen, he was relieved like a sentry leaving guard, by two other lounging visitors."

Scott's Pegasus was ever on the wing; from his first placing his foot on the soil of Abbotsford, it was with him a castle in the air—an aërial vision that imbued even his day and night dreams, it engulphed all his gains, and was the ever greedy insatiate cormorant that was constantly craving: his building, purchasing and planting, was the impelling power to constant exertion; he could not hesitate to reflect, and his castellated creation, while it drew from his labours a sum exceeding 50,000*l.*, rendered, as in most similar ventures, but a poor requital; the produce of the estate being, it is said, never more than 700*l.* per annum. The pen, though dipped in liquid gold, could not write off or cancel the every-day demand upon his energies—a partner or participator in the printing-office of the Ballantynes, he became involved in their embarrassments, the whirl of events led to his forestalling coming profits on writings, only projected not written, bills were drawn, frequently on maturity, only to be renewed, and counterpoised by similar accommodations on the other side. Something had to be prepared, without his name, if the work was not sufficiently attractive with it—hence the application of every reserve and endeavour to preclude discovery—but the material, the flow of writing and the spirit was the same, and those to whom he asserted he was not the author were not convinced. To remove their scepticism, he has said that other persons were the real Simon Pure; driven at bay by friends who were not thus to be bamboozled, he has persisted; till unwilling to offend, matters passed on, those who knew him ceased to question, since no satisfactory result followed, and he was but too glad to escape by any one assuming the position, to which none save himself was justly entitled.

Scott's Lord of the Isles was announced in November, 1814, as the Prince of the Isles, to be ready at Christmas; it was published in quarto in January, 1815, but he again found that not even the name of Bruce could compensate in the public estimation the want of what had been the most captivating charm of his earliest productions—the development of new powers, and styles of versification. And in the following month, February, not only was a cheaper edition, in 8vo., announced, but it was soon followed by Guy Mannering, or the Astrologer, by the Author of Waverley, of which there were announcements in December, 1814. Mr. Fitzpatrick observes,—Scott in his Introduction to Guy Mannering says that he looked about for a name and a subject, and from this observation we may infer that such was his invariable habit when commencing a fictitious narrative. The practice is, I believe, usual among authors.* Guy Mannering, however, notwithstanding his reference to Mr. French's "Parallel Passages," Mr. Fitzpatrick seems to consider as not Scott's—The parties who probably sent the rough sketch for filling up and revision, were alone competent to write its historical introduction.* With the Parallel Passages before him, it is surprising Mr. Fitzpatrick should thus run a tilt against all apparent probability. Mr. French, who seems fully aware of the ungracious position he had assumed, writes:—

Guy Mannering is said to have been written with extreme rapidity, occupying the author only a few weeks in its composition; and this circumstance has given colour to the assertion that Scott is not the exclusive author; but when it is seen that the novel is in reality only an adaptation—in the same way in which modern English dramas are adapted from the French—the wonder caused by the rapid execution vanishes. But, another still remains! Who can fail to marvel at the masterly skill with which crude materials have been worked into one of the most delicious tales in modern literature?

The answer to this is sufficiently prompt and conclusive—None but those who would detract from his transcendent merit. Scott, like Raffaelle and Michael Angelo who painted from nature, did not disdain to borrow ideas from the most crude and inherent objects, hence in after ages the Madonnas of the one charm and delight the observer, while the Last Judgment of the other, enforces the grandeur of awe and reverence.

Scott, in the introduction to Guy Mannering, details some of the sources from which the material was derived, but as Mr. French observes—there does not appear the most distant hint that the author had borrowed his plot from the events of real life. That omission, Mr. French purports to supply by Parallel Passages from the Memoirs of an Unfortunate Young Nobleman, printed in 1743-7, in three volumes, duod., and from the Gentleman's Magazine, 1744, in juxta-position with others from Guy Mannering. With this course no one can quarrel, for to what after all does it amount? That Scott read for a subject, and passing the matter through the alembic of his brain, refined it to the gold in which it now appears. But the Memoirs referred to by Mr. French, are not in the library at Abbotsford—there is, however, Fortune's Favourite: containing Memoirs, etc., of Jacobo Anglicano, a Young Nobleman, 1744, 8vo., with this manuscript note by Scott—'The Annesley Case introduced into Peregrine Pickle.' Here, then, is the source, and not the Memoirs, as supposed by Mr. French; the Gentleman's Magazine is also in the library, and with Smollett's writings Scott was fully conversant.

It is idle to pursue discussion further. Mr. Fitzpatrick will fail in producing anything to attach establishing claims for his protegées, the Scott's—no simple wreath will be culled by him to set amidst the grass of two uninscribed and forgotten graves, to indicate that genius sleeps below; and the perusal of his Investigation will only impress upon the reader some emotions of

* Investigation, p. 80.

* Investigation, p. 61.

surprise that his good sense was not exercised in discriminating fact from falsehood; and that even Colonel W———'s evidence which Mr. Fitzpatrick considers more striking than Dr. G———'s, goes no further than the suppositious impression that neither Thomas Scott nor his wife wrote any of the novels, but that they assisted their brother in supplying anecdotes and traits of character.* Scott, like the potter, seized the most earthy matter, and skilfully moulding it to the forms his mind indicated, gave to all that beauty, elegance and durability, which will ever create admiration, and ennoble his name among the literary celebrities of the British Empire.

SCOTT'S ALTERATIONS AND CORRECTIONS.

The following memoranda relative to Sir Walter Scott and his works, may be deemed not unworthy of a place in your Current Notes.

The manuscript of Waverley commences with chap. V., and contains somewhat more than half the printed work: it was purchased for forty guineas by James Hall, Esq., brother of Capt. Basil Hall, and by him presented to the Library of the Faculty of Advocates. At the commencement is inserted the following letter from Sir Walter's son-in-law, addressed to Mr. Hall.

Sussex Place, Regent's Park.
May 17, 1850.

My dear Hall.—No Saducee can dare to question the authenticity of your autograph of Waverley. I am fortunate enough to possess the Rob Roy, and even between those two, the hand had changed a good deal. In your manuscript it is exactly as in that of Marmion.

Ever yours, J. G. LOCKHART.

Upon looking over 'the original manuscript' in the well known handwriting of Scott, a person can hardly help smiling at the idea that it was *merely a copy* of Thomas Scott's original, made for the purpose of deception. Such is, I think, one of the charges brought against the reputed author. If it was made with that object, it is the cleverest piece of deception of the kind that ever was manufactured. It is written on differently sized paper, is full of corrections and re-corrections, alterations and interlineations. If any unbiassed person would examine it, as deposited in the library of the Faculty of Advocates, they would indubitably admit that it possesses every appearance of authenticity.

Many of the alterations are not improvements, for instance, Balmawhapple interrupts the Baron's French chanson by striking up—

It's up Glenbarchans braes I gaed,
And ow'r the bent of Killiebrair;
And mony a weary cast I maid
To cùitle† the moor-fools tail.

In a note to the edition revised by the author, Sir Walter tells us this fragment was the induction of Macdonald, the author of the tragedy of Vimonda. The next is his own.

If up there sprang a gude black cock,
To whistle him down wi' a slug in his dock,
And clink him into my lunzie poke,
Right seldom wad I fail.

These lines in the printed edition stand thus—

If up a bonny black cock should spring,
To whistle him down with a slug in his wing,
And strap him on to my lunzie string,
Right seldom would I fail.

The lines substituted are inferior to the original verses, which are coarse but vigorous, and such as might naturally be expected to flow from the vulgar lips of the "horse louper," Laird though he was.

In Scott's Lady of the Lake are these lines—

Foxgloves and night shade, side by side;
Emblems of punishment and pride.

A gentleman who had some difficulty in comprehending the meaning of this passage addressed a letter of enquiry to the author, who thus responded:—

Sir,—I am honored with your letter, and am highly flattered by a gentleman of your classical attainments having found pleasure in my poetical attempts, and having thought any part of them worthy of the beautiful latin dress you have honored my highland damsel with.

I fear I shall lose in your good opinion, by frankly confessing that I am unable to give any satisfactory solution as to the two lines, tho' my attention has been frequently called to them by similar enquiries. My poetry has always passed from the desk to the press in the most hurried manner possible, so that it is no wonder I am sometimes puzzled to explain my own meaning.

In the present case, protesting always that I shall have the benefit of any better explanation which a friendly commentator may find out for me; I incline to think that I must have confused the night-shade with hemlock, used you know, for the execution of criminals, and so far therefore an emblem of punishment; and that the fox-glove from its determined erect figure and decisive colour, might be no bad emblem of pride.

I am afraid this will hardly satisfy my fair admirer, being one degree worse than Bardolph's solution of the word "accommodate."

Indeed, I have sometimes thought of altering or omitting the lines, which are nonsense as they stand, but I have always forgot to do so, and esteem myself fortunate in my negligence, since it has procured me the honor of your correspondence.

I am, sir, your obliged humble servant,
Abbotsford, Melrose, WALTER SCOTT.
October 20, 1812.

These lines, nevertheless, in the revised edition of the Poems, dated Abbotsford, April, 1830, stand as originally printed, without any comment or explanation.

Edinburgh, June 4. JAMES MAIDMENT.

M. Augustine Thierry, the historian of the Conquest of England by the Normans, died in his seventieth year, at Paris, on Thursday, May 22.

* Investigation, pp. 47, 48. † Kittle, *i. e.*, to tickle.

THE CUP AND THE LIP.

Most persons are familiar with the proverb which suggests the uncertainty that intervenes between the cup and the lip, who are not acquainted with its high antiquity, and its supposed origin. According to the Greek mythologers, the person who first experienced a truth, which after him became proverbial, was a king named Ancæus. Lycophron who has expressed the proverb (v. 489.) with his usual perspicuity and simplicity:

ὥς πολλὰ χείλευς καὶ δεπαστραίων ποτῶν
μέσῳ κυλίνδει Μοῖρα παμμήστωρ βροτῶν

refers it to an Arcadian hero, Ancæus of Tegea, who was killed by the Calydonian boar. His valour and untimely fate were subjects of lively interest in his native city; and the artist who adorned one of the pediments in the great temple of Minerva Alea at Tegea, with the principal figures belonging to the Calydonian chase, had represented Ancæus in the act of sinking under his wounds, after the hatchet with which he had ineffectually assailed the boar had fallen from his hand.* But Lycophron's Greek commentator censures the poet for confounding two perfectly distinct personages, the one of Tegea, and Ancæus a son of Neptune and Astypalea, and king of the Leleges.† This people, according to Pherecydes,‡ was in possession of the coast of Asia between Ephesus and Phocæa, and of the islands Chios and Samos, before the Ionian migration, and a legend reported by Tzetzes on the authority of an Aristotle who had written a book entitled πέπλοι, placed the scene of the event which gave rise to the proverb in Samos. There Ancæus had planted the vine: but a seer or an oracle had predicted that he should never drink wine from its fruit. When the grapes were ripe, the king pressed a bunch into a cup, and as he raised it to his lips, scoffed at the idle prophecy; the seer replied, πουλὺ μεταξὺ πέλει κύλικος καὶ χείλεος ἄκρον· at the same moment a shout was heard, and tidings came that a boar was ravaging the fields. Laying aside the untasted must, Ancæus rushed forth to encounter the invader, and perished in the conflict.

With regard to the proverb, it can scarcely be doubted, that it belongs to the Samian Ancæus, whose son Samos was said to have given his name to the island: for the prediction which is the basis of the story, had most probably some connexion with that peculiar defect in the quality of the Samian soil, which rendered it unfavourable to the growth of the vine, while the neighbouring islands, as well as the adjacent coast of the continent were celebrated for the excellence of their wines.

C. T.

* Pausanias, viii. 45. 7.

† So he is described by Asius (in Pausan. vii. 4. 1. 7.) who does not mention the Carians, as incorrectly stated by Panofka, (Res Samiorum, p. 11.) Strabo himself speaks of the Carians as having inhabited Samos while it was called Parthenia, (xiv. p. 637,) but possibly he only uses the name of Carians, according to a commonly received notion, as equivalent to that of Leleges, without in any way meaning to contradict Pherecydes. ‡ Strabo, xiv. p. 632.

GRANT OF ARMS TO GOLDSMITHS' COMPANY.

The following grant of arms, or rather of crest and supporters, to the Goldsmiths' Company of London, here copied from the original, has never been printed:—

To all and singular as well Nobles and Gentelmen as others to whome these presents shall come, ROBERT COOKE esquier, alias Clarencieulx principall Herehault and Kinge of Armes of the Sowth, Este, and Weste partes of this realme of Englande, from the river of Trent sowthwardes sendeth greetinge.

Whereas aunciently from the beginninge the valiant and vertuous actes of worthie persons have ben comended to the worlde withe sondry monuments and remembrances of theyr good desertes amongst the whiche the chefest and moste usuall hath ben the bearinge of Signes in Shildes called Armes which are evident demonstracions of prowis and valoyr diversly distributed accordinge to the qualities and deserts of the persons, whiche order as yt was prudently devised in the beginninge to stirre and kindell the hartes of men to the imitacion of vertue and noblenes; even so hathe the same ben and yet is continually observed to th' ende that suche as have don comendable servyce to their Prynce or Contry either in Warre or Peace may bothe receave dewe honor in their lyves and also deryve the same successively to their posteritie after them,

And whereas Kinge Richarde the Seconde in [1393,] the sixtenth yere of his reigne did by his letters patentes, at Westmester, the sixte daye of february in the yere aforesaide, incorporate the men of the arte or mistery of Goldsmiths in the Citie of London, and that they sholde be one perpetuall comunitie and yerely chose fower wardens of the men of the saide comunitie, to oversee rule and dewly governe the saide arte or mistery and all and singular the men of the same forever.

Synce which tyme Kinge Edwarde the fowerth, the thirtieth daye of Maye in [1462,] the seconde yere of his reigne, did not only ratifie and confirme the same, but also gave them dyvers and sondry liberties, as to pleade and be impleaded by the names aforesaid, and that they showlde have a perpetuall succession, and one Comon Seale for the necessary business of the saide art or mistery to serve them for ever, and for that the saide arte or mistery hath of longe tyme borne Armes, yet notwithstandinge for the further honor of the saide arte or mistery they have required me the said Clarencieulx to assigne to these theyr auncient Armes, a Creast and Supporters lawfull to be borne.

In consideracion of theyr worthiness and at the request of Robert Browne gentelman, John Mabbe gentelman, Robert Friar gentelman, and William Denham gentelman, now wardens of the saide arte or mistery, I have, by power and auethoritie to my office annexed and graunted by letters patents under the Greate Seale of Englande; devised ordeyned and assigned to the saide wardens and theyr successors in office and like place, and to all those infranchised of the saide arte or mistery, to these theyr auncient armes, that is to saye—Quarterly, gules and asur, in the first, a leopardes hed; in the seconde, a cuppe between two buckles, golde; the Creaste and supporters hereafter followinge, that is to saye—

Uppon the heaulme on a wreathe golde and gules, issuant out of the clowdes, a demy virgin, her gowne purple, her kerteli golde, holdinge in her right hande, a payre of ballance golde in her left hande, a tuche stone mantelled gules,

doubled argent. The supporters, two Unicornes golde mayned, clayed and tayled purple as more playnely apperithe depicted in the margent.

To have and holde the saide Armes Creast and Supporters to the saide wardens and to their successors in like office, and to all the men enfranchised of the saide arte or mistery from tyme to tyme, and they the same to use beare and shewe forever in all places honest for the honor of the said fellowship in shilde, standard, banner, penon, or otherwaies at their lybertie and pleasure without impedyment let or interruption of any person or persons. In witness whereof I have set hereunto my hande and seale of office, the eight daye of November, in the yere of oure Lord God, a thowsand five hundreth seventy and one, and in the thirtenth yere of the reigne of our sovereigne lady Elizabeth, by the grace of God, Queene of England, France and Ireland, defender of the faithe, etc.

ROBERT COOKE *alias* Clarencieux,
Roy Darmes.

The arms emblazoned in the margin are the same as now borne by the Goldsmiths' Company, but later there was a slight change in the colours, which was thus registered :—

Approved and entered in the visitation of London, made 1634. The Unicornes to bee mayned clayed and tayled argent, and the gowne of the creast gules.

HEN. ST. GEORGE, Richmond.

Examples of the Goldsmiths' Company arms occur in sepulchral memorials in the churches of Upminster and Westham, in Essex; and Datchet in Berkshire.

Lee Road, Blackheath. J. J. HOWARD.

DISMEMBERMENT OF POLAND.

The mishaps which have befallen Poland, and continue to repress the energies of that kingdom, were all, in every circumstance, remarkably predicted by one of her greatest monarchs. John Casimir V., in a discourse he made to the States, assembled in 1661, announced to them his resolution of abdicating his royal position in the following impressive words :—

I foresee the misfortunes which threaten our country, and I wish it may please God to make me a false prophet. The Muscovite and the Cossack will join the people who talk the same language with themselves, and will possess themselves of the duchy of Lithuania. The confines of Great Poland will be open to Brandenbourg; and Prussia itself will, either by treaty, or the force of arms, make war upon our territory. In this dismemberment of our estates, the house of Austria will not let slip the opportunity to seize on Cracow. Each of our neighbours will rather chuse, by force of arms, to gain a part of Poland, than to wait to possess, perhaps, some day or other, a kingdom whose ancient privileges defend it from the enterprizes of foreign powers.

He abdicated in 1668, and the Poles of his day were far from believing that the discourse of a prince, who after being a Jesuit, then a cardinal, and ascended the throne, relinquished a crown, and again became a monk in France, where he died; was, in effect, a prophecy that has too truthfully occurred to the very letter.

RARE MARC ANTONIO PRINTS.

The recent sale of the collections of art, belonging to the late Mr. Rogers, presents in its results many points of consideration to collectors, I mean more particularly in reference to the variations in value, at various periods, and as Current Notes appears eminently calculated for embodying and transmitting such memoranda, I submit the following for insertion.

Take one class of prints, the Marc Antonio's, which are all of very rare occurrence, and as those in the collections of Sir M. M. Sykes and Rogers are of equal importance as regards condition, a comparison with the relative prices they produced, the former in May, 1824, and the latter so recently, will not only be interesting, but, to a certain extent, mark the declension, or rise which some of them acquire by a variation in taste, for, urge what we may, there is a fashion in all things.

The numbers at the commencement of each line refer to the print as so numbered by Bartsch in his fourteenth volume. The first column of prices are from the Sykes' Sale Catalogue, the second indicates those from Mr. Christie's Catalogue of the Rogers' Collection.

3	Noah, after Raffaelle	6	0	0	0	16	0
9	Joseph, after the same	5	15	6	0	15	0
10	David, after the same	45	3	0	27	6	0
16	Nativity, after F. Francia	20	0	0	3	15	0
23	Christ in the house of the Pharisee, after Raffaelle or Polidoro?	6	10	0	4	15	0
26	Last Supper, after Raffaelle	8	0	0	0	7	0
32	Descent from the Cross, the same	8	12	6	6	15	0
35	Madonna lamenting, the same	2	3	0	5	15	0
52	Madonna in Clouds	2	5	0	21	0	0
61	Madonna and Child, the same	4	4	0	5	5	0
63	Holy Family, the same	16	16	0	8	0	0
113	Five Saints, the same	15	5	0	1	6	0
116	St. Cecilia, the same	19	19	0	9	10	0
245	Judgment of Paris, the same	6	10	0	33	12	0
247	Mount Parnassus, the same	21	0	0	9	0	0
342-4	Three Angles of the Farnesina	98	14	0	26	15	6
350	Galatea, after Raffaelle	14	14	0	1	2	0
352	The Quos-ego, the same	15	0	0	6	0	0
355	The Amadeus, with border	7	10	0	0	10	6
361	Triumph of Trajan	5	0	0	1	1	0
381	Philosophy, after Raffaelle	6	6	0	12	12	0
382	Poesy, the same	5	5	0	52	10	0
383	Female pouring water, after Francia	0	15	0	3	15	0
417	The Pest, after Raffaelle	5	0	0	1	1	0
432	Young Mother				4	0	0
445	Woman in meditation				6	0	0
464	Two figures, after Michael Angelo	7	15	0	2	2	0
496	Man bearing base of column	6	8	6	6	0	0
514	Marcus Aurelius statue	25	0	0	9	0	0

Thus showing, notwithstanding the changes of appreciation, arising for the most part from individual taste, a depreciation in value in Rogers's sale of one hundred and thirty-five pounds. Priced and named lists, printed so as to bind with the sale catalogues of collections of character and repute, are to collectors of the highest value; I really wish some one would adopt this course, and I should at all times be most happy to subscribe to their cost.

June 10. A Collector.

BOLINGBROKE'S MISTRESS, MISS GUMLEY.

Your correspondent C., who, in Current Notes, p. 48, asks for the authority on which it is stated, Miss Gumley was the mistress of Henry St. John, subsequently Lord Bolingbroke, may be referred to Mallet's memoir of him, in which it is noticed that at the age which should have been employed in the acquisition of knowledge, St. John seemed more ambitious of being thought the greatest rake about town, and was noted for keeping Miss Gumley, the most expensive prostitute in the kingdom.* Cooke, upon a fuller inquiry and further evidence, descanting upon his irregularities, observes:—

Formed to excel in whatever he might undertake, he soon became as notorious for his excesses as he was afterwards eminent for his genius and learning. By those who could yet remember the court of Charles II., he was compared to Rochester, and he was then proud of the comparison. He left nothing unaccomplished that could increase the similitude; he continued his drunken revels with the most unblushing publicity, and his mistress, Miss Gumley, was the most beautiful courtesan of her day, but St. John was rather captivated by her celebrity than won by her beauty; his attentions were not very assiduous, nor his constancy very remarkable.†

Mallet places the birth of Henry St. John, at Battersea, in 1672; but Cooke, upon Bolingbroke's own statement, dates it Oct. 1, 1678; and his riotous course of dissipation was the theme of his earliest biographer. 'He was much addicted to women, and was apt to indulge himself in late hours, with all those excesses that usually attend them.'‡ It is not apparent whether his *liaison* with Miss Gumley was before his travels upon the continent, which occupied about two years, portions of 1698-1700, or after his marriage in the latter year—a mere marriage of convenience, for he complained that his wife's temper was insufferable, and she that his infidelities were shameless and intolerable: they soon formally separated.§

St. John, upon entering public life, was, by his family interest, returned member for Wootton-Bassett in Wiltshire, and abandoning his Whig connections, joined Harley, a confirmed tory, for whom he then had the greatest esteem. His eloquence in the house gained for him such authority and influence that, to reward his merit, he was April 10,‖ 1704, appointed Secretary-at-War, and of the Marines; his friend Harley having been, a little before, made Secretary of State. Whether from the influence of a former connexion with Miss Gumley, or that it really was subsequent to his marriage, is immaterial, it was easy as Secretary-at-War to elevate her father to the office of a paymaster, and as such we find him. The beauty of Miss Gumley, who became Mrs. Pulteney, afterwards countess of Bath, is recorded in history; and the marriage of her sister with Francis Colman doubtless led to his appointment of Resident Minister in Tuscany. All this is but the history of the day; these extravagances are highly descriptive of the state of society at this period, and disgraceful as they are to the persons concerned, they reflect equal discredit upon the public forbearance which could tolerate and even applaud them. Pope's encomiums amount to nothing, he said civil things of others who were equally loose in principles of honour, and whose names, though emblazoned on the pages of that eminent writer, yet figure in history as dishonourable mistresses of royalty, and the abandoned polluters of the marriage-bed. Z.

* Bolingbroke's Works, 1777, 4to., vol. i. p. 4.
† Memoirs of Lord Bolingbroke, 1835, 8vo., vol. i. p. 11.
‡ Memoirs, 1752, 8vo., p. 33. § Cooke, vol. i. p. 19.
‖ April 20. Memoirs, 1752.

QUAINT EPITAPHS.

On the gravestone of a Nathaniel Clarke, in Bisbrooke Churchyard, near Uppingham, below the figure of a waggoner driving "his blessed horses," which, if I remember rightly, had been coloured, are the following lines—

Here lies the body of Nathaniel Clarke,
Who never did no harm in the light, or in the dark;
But by his blessed horses taken great delight,
And often travelled with them, by day and by night.

The epitaph commencing—Man's life is like a winter's day, quoted in the last volume of Current Notes, p. 64, is with a few verbal alterations, also found in Crowland Abbey churchyard.

Very recently, the following has been placed in Whittlesea churchyard:—

Weep not for me, my dearest dear;
I am not dead, but buried here.
With patience wait, prepare to die,
And then you'll surely come to I.

Eldernell, June 2. H. I. L.

Temple Bar.—Townley and Fletcher, the adherents of the Pretender, were executed on Kennington Common, July 30, 1746, and their heads, as those of traitors, according to the very rare print, were exposed to public contempt upon Temple-bar on August 2. When were they removed thence?

Salford, June 12. T. F.

One fell from its unenviable position on March 31, 1772; the other, according to a newspaper—Yesterday, (Friday, Feb. 26, 1773,) about one o'clock, the head, which was upon Temple-bar, was blown off by the high wind, and fell upon one of the sedan chairs standing at the bottom.

BELFRY RHYMES, CORNWALL.

The following lines in Calstock Church, were procured for me, at some trouble, by a friend to whom I am greatly indebted.

Penzance, June 2. HENRY WILLIAMS.

We ring the quick to church, the dead to grave.
Good is our use, such usage let us have.
Who swears, or curse, or in a cholerick mood
Quarrels or strike altho' he draw no blood;
Who wears his hat, or spur, or turns a bell,
Or by unskillful handling mars a peal,
Lett him pay Sixpence for each single crime,
'Twill make him cautious against another time.
So when the bells are ceased then let us sing,
God bless our Holy Church, God save the King.

These bells were cast, and the tower new leaded, in the year 1773.

JOHN MOON, JOHN HUNN, Churchwardens.

DE ORIGINE VITÆ ET MORTIS.

Qu a d tr fu str
os nguis irus isti de nere avit.
H sa m Chr vul l

TRANSLATION.

cur f w d dis and pain;
A sed iend rought eath ease
bles fr b br and again.

GLASS WINDOW RHYMES.

On the left bank of the river Wharf, and on the north-east corner of Harewood bridge, on the line of road from Leeds to Harrogate, stood recently an interesting Elizabethan roadside inn, about which the landscape was very picturesque. The cleanliness and neatness of this inn, with its small low rooms, and the excellent creature comforts at all times to be found there, caused it to be much visited by small parties on fishing excursions to its neighbourhood, and a place of resort for many of the respectable inhabitants of Leeds. In 1798, when first visited by the writer, on an old pane of glass in one of its stone-mullioned windows, were inscribed the following lines—

Gaily I lived as Ease and Nature taught,
And past my little Life without a thought;
I wonder then why Death, that tyrant grim,
Should think of me, who never thought of him.

These were followed by an admonitory quatrain—

Ah! why forget that Death should think of thee,
If thou art Mortal, such must surely be;
Then rouse up reason, view thy hast'ning end,
And lose no time to make thy God thy Friend.

Alas! the comfortable little old inn has since been demolished, and a large fashionable one erected on its site, but to me it does not supply that satisfactory, nor seeming comfort and ease which I constantly experienced in its predecessor. J. H.

EARLY MERCHANT'S MARK.

All the examples of marks mercantile which occur on sepulchral brasses in the churches of Ipswich have been noticed in Current Notes. The annexed is the only one that is incised on a flat stone in St. Peter's church. The being merchant and master of a ship, appears to have been, in 1620, deemed worthy of especial note:—

Here lieth interred Adriaen Adriaenzoo Waywell, who when he lived was both merchant and master of a shipp, he deceased the 22 December, MDCXX.

Lee Road, Blackheath. J. J. H.

PILLEMENT.—I am anxious to learn something of JEAN PILLEMENT, an artist who flourished about a century ago, and as I know of no means so likely for the attainment of that object as through the agency of your useful and excellent Current Notes, I venture to ask if any of your readers can afford me any information respecting him and his works, and whether his crayon drawings, for which, I believe, he was famous in his day, are now of any value? I have sought on the walls of the Louvre for specimens of this artist, and finding but one, I concluded his works are somewhat scarce, is this so?

E. K. B.

Jean Pillement was a Frenchman, who resided some years in London, chiefly patronised and employed by Mons. C. Leviez, a dancing-master of some notoriety in Beaufort-buildings, in the Strand; but who, in addition to the reputation acquired by his Terpsichorean profession, added the, no doubt to him, highly profitable dealing in prints and drawings. Pillement's chief employment was the drawing of landscapes and fancy subjects, generally in black chalk upon white paper, sometimes strengthened in Indian ink. These were theatrically disposed, the parts not drawn from nature, but selected from prints, those by Le Bas after Wouvermans, were the main source from which he drew the forms in all his pasticcio productions. They had the merit of being finished with considerable patience and care, and from that cause obtained much notice from persons with whom neatness of execution was held to be the perfection of art. Leviez had, on his own account, many plates engraved after Pillement's designs, some of them by Ravenet; Boydell's name appears to others as the publisher. There are also some fantastically designed ornaments, in what was then ridiculously termed the Chinese Taste; these were engraved by Canot, and are dated 1759.

The repute in which he was then held, induced some of his drawings to be exhibited in the first and second exhibitions of the Royal Academy, but they are not particularised in the Catalogues; and he soon after quitted England.

Pillement painted a few pictures in a similar style of composition with his drawings, showy in their colouring, but deficient in tone. These, with his drawings, have failed to retain their former estimation.

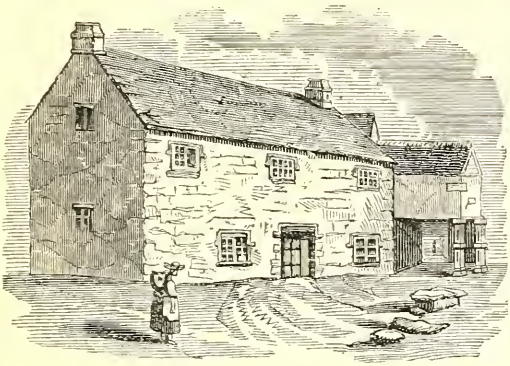
WILLIS'S CURRENT NOTES.

No. LXVII.] "Takes note of what is done—
By note, to give and to receive."—SHAKESPEARE. [JULY, 1856.

KEIGWIN FAMILY MANSION AT MOUSEHOLE.

Penzance in the sixteenth century was but little known and of minor importance, Mousehole on the contrary was the principal town on the shores of the Mount's Bay; but all things change, Mousehole* has declined to a mere fishing village, and Penzance is now a large progressive and prosperous town.

The Keigwins of Mousehole were the principal family in the parish of St. Paul; and in 1595, the large house noticed by many of our local historians, but not till now engraved —



was occupied by Jenkin Keigwin, then the head of that family. On the morning of July 23, in that year, the Spaniards made a descent upon the coast over against Mousehole, and Jenkin Keigwin was killed by a shot fired from one of their gallies in their attack upon the town.† He was buried at St. Paul; but the cannon-ball has since been religiously preserved, and may be seen in the above house.

During the Civil war, a descendant made himself sufficiently conspicuous as a royalist, and is thus noticed in the following letter.

June 30, 1646.

Sir, I believe the Castle of Pendennis will not be long out of our hands; a dogger boat with four guns I have taken, whereof one Kedgwin of Penzant, was Captain, a notable active knave against the Parliament, and had the king's commission, but now would fain be a merchant man, and was ballasted with salt, and had diverse letters in her for Pendennis Castle.

Aboard the Andrew,
before Pendennis Castle,
W. BATTEN.

Allusion is later made to a Mr. John Keigwin, as being the last person whose knowledge of the Cornish language was rudimentally correct.‡ He rendered Lluyd material assistance while forming his Cornish grammar,

* Mousehole in the Cornish language named Porternis, and in Latin, Portus Insulæ, both importing one meaning—the Island Haven, and so called by reason of a small island situated before it.

† The Spaniards in their Popish malevolence considered the English a nation of heretics, and their extirpation a service rendered to God. This induced the armament in 1588, but its discomfiture appears to have been soon forgotten by them, and the atrocity of this descent, is thus narrated by Carew.

Soon after the sun was risen, and had chased a fog that kept the sea out of sight, four gallies of the enemy presented themselves upon the coast over against Mousehole, and there in a fair bay, landed about two hundred men, pikes and shot, who forthwith sent their forlorn hope, consisting of their basest people, unto the straggled houses of the country, about half a mile compass or more, by whom were burned, not only the houses they went by, but also the parish church of St. Paul, the force of the fire being such, as it utterly ruined all the great stone pillars thereof. Others of them, in that time, burned the fisher-town Mousehole; the rest marched as a guard for defence of the firers. The inhabitants being feared with the Spaniards landing and burning fled from their dwellings, and very meanly weaponed, met on a green on the west side of Penzance, Sir Francis Godolphin who was that forenoon coming from his house for the pacifying some controversies in those western parts; and from the hills espying the fires in that town, church and houses, hastened thither. He forthwith sent to all the Captains of those parts for their speedy repair with their companies; and also, by post to Sir Francis Drake, and Sir John Hawkins, then at Plymouth, with a fleet bound for the Indies, sent advertisement of the arrival of these four gallies, and of their burnings; advising them to look to themselves, if there were any greater fleet of the enemy's at sea; and to send west with all haste what succours by sea or land, they could spare. Sir Francis Godolphin then advised that weak assembly to retire into Penzance, and to prepare it for defence until the coming of the country forces that he had sent for; but they finding themselves something above a hundred, wherein were about thirty or forty shot, though scarcely one third of them were serviceable, insisted upon marching against the enemy to repel them from further spoils of their houses.

‡ Courtney's Guide to Penzance. The figure of the fisherwoman represented in the woodcut, is introduced as a memento of Dorothy or Dolly Pentreath, a remarkable Cornish character, who lived and died at Mousehouse, and is said to have been the last person who could speak in the Cornish dialect.

and was the translator from the Celtic dialect, of two works, one entitled The Creation of the World; the other Mount Calvary. The manuscripts were deposited in the Bodleian Library, but have since been printed under the editorial care of the late Davies Gilbert, M.P. This John Keigwin died in 1710.

The Keigwin mansion, has long remained unoccupied. That portion, which is in part only seen resting upon square pillars, is now a public house, known by the name of the Keigwin Arms. Carne passingly observes—the roomy and massive dwelling of the last survivor of an old family, the only grandee of the place, had not very remotely become the chief inn in the village; yet the faded portraits on some of the walls, the gloomy air of many of the spacious apartments, and above all, the decaying walls, in parts of which ivy had grown, and the ancient but now neglected garden proved that the possessor had been a man of opulence, and as was still recollected, of influence in the village, equal almost to that of a feudal chieftain.§

The ceiling of the principal room is decorated with shields bearing men's heads, dolphins and escallop shells. In one of the compartments is the Keigwin crest.||

Some descendants of the Keigwins are still living.

Penzance, July 4. HENRY WILLIAMS.

COINS OF EDWARD THE FIRST.

The following extract, from a letter dated Edinburgh, April 2, 1785, will probably interest some of your Northern readers.

Last week as the grave digger was making a grave in the churchyard of Brechin, in moving the earth immediately underneath after cutting off sod or swaird, and within nine inches of the surface, he turned up a vast number of silver pieces, they say as many as would have filled a large hat; and amongst them six silver spoons with circular mouths of about two inches diameter, and about a quarter of an inch deep; a shank four inches and a half long, and about an eighth of an inch thick, with a small knob or button at the extremity.

All or most of the pieces of coin are about the size of a sixpence, and seem to be the coinage of Edward as bearing his name, and to have been coined at different places; some of them with a head within a triangle, and on the reverse side, a cross with three points in each angle, with CIVITAS DVBLINIE around it.

At what period the money and these spoons had been deposited or left there, people here do not pretend to form a conjecture, unless it had been at the time the English under King Edward the First besieged and took the castle of Brechin, then commanded by Sir Thomas Maule. What may lead to this conjecture is, that the churchyard is within less than three hundred yards of Brechin castle to the north thereof, and divided therefrom by a very hollow and deep glen; and that the English had been posted in and about the churchyard, and had lost the money there.

R. F.

§ Tales of the West. || Courtney's Guide to Penzance.

COINAGE OF EDWARD THE SECOND.

The following are all the varieties of the pennies of King Edward the Second, coined between July, 1307, and January, 1327, with which I am acquainted, and have only to hope that a similar response may be made to my request, of any additional varieties being communicated through Current Notes, as was the case with reference to the coinage of the first Edward.

LONDON MINT.

1. EDWA R ANGL DNS HYB
   CIVITAS LON DON
2. Obverse as no. 1., but with English ϵ
   Reverse as no. 1.
3. Obverse as no. 1.
   Reverse, CIVI TAƧ LON DON
4. EDWA R ANGL DNS HYB'.
   Reverses of nos. 4 to 10, as no. 1.
5. EDWA R ANGL DNS HYB:
6. EDWA R ANGL DNS HY: B:
7. EDWA R AANGL DNS HYB
8. EDWA · R ANG DNS HYB
9. EDWA · R ANGL DNS HYB
10. EDWA R ANGL DNS HB
11. Obverse as no. 1.
    : CIVITAS LONDON
12. Obverse as no. 1.
    CIVI TAS DON DON
13. EDWA R ANGL ∘ DNS ∘ HYB Mint Mark a Cross pattée. Roman N's.
    Reverse as no. 1.
14. EDWR R ANGL DNS HYB
    CIVITAS LONDON
15. As no. 14, but having pellet after HYB.
16. EDWR RE ANGL DNS HYB
    Reverse as no. 1.
17. EDWAR R ANGL DNS HYB
    CIVITAS LONDON.
18. As no 17, but with pellet after R. for REX.
19. Obverse as no. 17.
    CIVI CIVI LON DON.
20. As no. 17.
    CIVI TAS LON DON The second I in CIVI has a horizontal stroke through the middle.
21. EDWAR R ANGL DNS HYB The front stroke of the Y springs from the back of the B, in monogram.
    Reverse, as no. 1.
22. EDWAR' REX ANGL DNS HYB
    CIVITAS LONDON

The letters are elegantly formed, the obverse die larger than the reverse; but it is the best piece of this reign that I have seen. The coin is of the small size.

23. EDWARD R ANGL DNS HYB
    CIVITAS LONDON
24. As no. 23; after HYB follows mark of abbreviation.
25. EDWARD R ANG DNS HYB
    Reverse, as no. 1.

26. •EDWARD ○ ANGL ○ R ○ DNS ○ HYB ○
CIVITAS ○ LONDON ○ Smaller coin than usual.

BERWICK.

27. EDWA R ANGL DNS HYB
VIL LAB ERE VICI
The obverses of the coins of this mint are all very similar excepting no. 31, on which the English Є appears,
28. : VIL LAB ERE WIC
29. : VIL LAB ERE WYCI
30. As no. 27, dot on breast, badly executed.
VILL ABE REVV ICI
31. ЄDWA R ANGL DNS HYB Dot on breast.
VILL ABE REV VICI Roman E's on reverse.
32. Obverse as no. 27.
VILL ABE REV VICI Roman E.
33. Obverse as no. 27; dot on the King's breast.
VILL ABE REV VICI
34. On reverse BIREWI, Cuff, no. 796.

BRISTOL.

35. EDWA R ANGL DNS HYB
VILL BRI STO LIE
36. As no. 35.
VILL ABR ISTO LLIE

CANTERBURY.

37. EDWA R ANGL DNS HYB
CIVITAS CANTOR
38. As no. 37, letters unusually large.
39. As no. 37, brooch on breast; letters small and elegantly formed.
40. As no. 37; on obv., one dot follows legend.
41. As no 37; two dots at end of legend.
42. As no. 37, three dots at end of legend.
43. ЄDWA R See Current Notes, p. 24. The varieties supplied by your correspondent, W. F. M., I have not met with elsewhere, but they are here incorporated.
44. EDWA R ANGL DNS HYB
Reverse as no. 37.
45. EDWA R ANG DNS HYB
Reverse as no. 37.
46. EDWAR ANGL DNS HYB
CANTOR CANTOR
47 EDWA R ANGL DNS HYB:
CIVITAS CASTOR
48. Obverse as no. 37.
CIVI TAS CANTAO
49. Obverse as no. 37.
CIVI TAS CAN TAS
50. Obverse as no. 37.
CANTAS. CANTOS
51. EDWR R ANGL DNS HYB
CIVITAS CANTOR
52. EDWAR R ANGL DNS HYB
CIVITAS CANTOR
53. As no. 52, but with pellet after HYB.
54. As no. 53, with two pellets HYB:
55. Obverse as no. 52.
CIVITAS CANTAS
56. EDWAR R ANGL DNS HYB the YB in monogram.
CIVITAS CANTOL
57. EDWARD R ANGL DNS HYB
Reverse as no. 37.
58. Obverse as no 57.
CIVITAS CANTON

DURHAM.

59. EDWA R ANGL DNS HYB m.m., a plain cross
CIVI TAS DVR EME
60 ЄDWA R. ANGL DNS HYB m.m., a cross pattée.
Reverse as no. 59.
Communicated by W. F. M. Large letters. In Current Notes, p. 24, no. 12, for the accredited style of Edward II., read Edward I.
61. EDWA R ANGL DNS HYB m.m., a cross moline.
CIVI TAS DVR EME

The cross Moline was borne by Anthony Beck, Patriarch of Jerusalem, elected to this see July 9, 1283. As Prince Palatine he bore arms, Gules, a cross moline Argent. He died in March 1311.

62. Obverse as no. 59.
CIVI TAS DVN ELM Crosier turned to left.

Richard de Kellawe, or Kellow, succeeded Beck, March 30, 1311. He appears to have been promoted for his merits or services, and having no pretensions to family arms, distinguished his coins from those of his predecessor, by a pastoral staff on the upright limb of the cross, turned to the left. He died Oct. 9, 1317.

63. Obverse as no. 59.
Reverse as no. 62. Crozier turned to the right
See Noble on Durham Coins, p. 20.
64. Obverse as no. 59. m.m. a Lion rampant.
CIVI TAS DVNELM

Lodovic Beaumont descended from Lewis, son of Lewis, King of Sicily and Jerusalem, younger brother of Lewis the ninth King of France. Treasurer of Salisbury he was appointed the successor of bishop Kellow, in Oct. 1317; lame of both legs, and so illiterate, that he was unable to read his consecration bull. He bore arms, Azure, semy of fleur-de-lis, a lion rampant Or; and died suddenly, Sept. 20, 1333.

65. ЄDWA R ANGL DNS HYB
CIVI TAS DVN ЄLM Crosier turned to left.
66. Obverse as no. 59.
CIVITAS DVNELMI On the Cross, within a lozenge, a crown. Cuff, no. 798.
67. EDWAR R ANGL DNS HYB m.m., a Cross Moline.
CIVITAS DVREME
68. Obverse as no 67. m.m. a plain cross.
69. EDWAR R ANGL DNA HYB m.m., a cross pattée.
CIVITAS DVREME
70. EDWAR R ANGL DNS HYB
CIVITAS DVNELM Crosier to left.
71. As no. 70. m.m., a Cross Moline.
72. As no. 70. m.m., a plain Cross.
73. As no. 70. m.m., a lion rampant. One fleur-de-lis in front.

74. As no. 70. The same. Two fleurs-de-lis in front.
75. As no. 70. m.m., a lion rampant between two fleurs-de-lis.
76. As no. 70. m.m. a lion rampant
77. As no. 70. On reverse, a cross fleury at end.
78. EDWARD R ANGL DNS HYB
CIVITAS DVREME
79. EDWARD R ANGL DNS H
CIVITAS DVREMIE
80. As no 78. But on reverse DVRENE
81. EDWARD REX ANGL DNS HYB
CIVITAS DVREME

ST. EDMUNDSBURY.

82. EDWA R ANGL DNS HYB
VILL ASCI EDM VNDI
83. Obverse as no. 82.
VILL SCIE DMV NDI
84. •€DWA R ANGL DNS HYB
VILL SCIE DMV NDI•
85. Same type, without pellets? Current Notes, p. 24.
86. Obverse and reverse as no. 83. Pellet on breast.
87. EDWA• R ANGL DNS HYB
VILL' SCI EDMV NDI
88. EDWR R ANGL DNS HYB
VILL SCI EDM VNDI
89. EDWAR R ANGL DNS HYB
VILL ASCI EDM VNDI
90. Obverse as no. 89.
VILL SCIE DMV NDI
91. Obverse as no 89.
VILL' SCIE DMV NDI
92. Obverse as no. 89.
VILL : SCIE DMV NDI A slight line across the final I, gives it the appearance of a Cross.
93. EDWAR R• ANGL DNS HYB
VILL SCIE DMV NDI
94. EDWARD R ANGL DNS HYB
VILL SCIE DMV NDI

NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE.

95. EDWA R ANGL DNS HYB
VILL ANOV CAS TRI
96. EDWAR R ANGL DNS HYB
VILL NOVI CAS TRI
97. EDWARD R ANGL DNS HYB
VILL NOVI CAS TRI
98. EDWARD R ANGL DNS HYB'
Reverse as no. 97.
99. Obverse as no. 97.
VILL NOV CAS TRI

King Edward the First struck coins at Chester, Exeter, Kingston, Lincoln and York; but of King Edward the Second, I have not met with any.

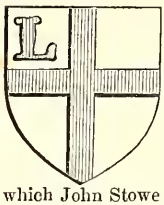
July 7. F. R. N. HASWELL.

ERRATA.—P. 41, col. 2, line 2 from foot, for Portland read Dorset. P. 44, col. 2, line 6 from foot of page, for Constantine read Constantina.

FABULOUS HISTORY OF THE ARMS OF LONDON.

Stow, in his Survey of London, quoting Dunthorne, refers to a change made during the Mayoralty of William Walworth, fishmonger, 1380-81, in the armorial device on the official seal, when the prior one 'being very small, old, unapt, and uncomely for the honour of the city,' was directed to 'be broken, and one other new should be had;' as shewing evidence that 'the armes of this Citty were not altered, but remayne as afore; to witte, argent, a playne cross gules, a sword of St. Paul in the first quarter, and no dagger of W. Walworth as is fabuled.'

The Harleian Manuscript, no. 1349, entitled 'the Arms of Companies and Citizens of London,' has on the first page, the following as shewing Stow himself to have been in error.



The auncient armes of the City of London as they stand in our Ladye Church at Antwerp; in which churche window stand the effigies of King Edward the Third, and all his children, with most of the armes of the Corporate Townes of England at that tyme; and this standeth first, and hath an ould Romane L in the first quarter, which John Stowe in an ould scale he had seene, took for a sword, affirming thereby that it was the sword of St. Paul, patron of the said City, whereby he constantly affirmed that they had auntiently so borne it, and that it was no reward given by King Richard the Second, as our chronicles report for the service done in Smythfield agayust Wat Tiler the Rebell by William Walworth, Mayor of London, who slew the said Wat Tyler with his dagger, in memory whereof say they the dagger was added to the Cityes Armes.

The dagger that now appears in the arms of London is therefore no sword of St. Paul; but is an erroneous substitute for the initial L for London, which appears in the earlier coat as borne in the time of King Edward the Third.

Lee Road, Blackheath. J. J. H.

ARMS OF THE CLOTHWORKERS' COMPANY.

The Clothworkers' Company of London, firstly incorporated in 1482, appears to have been an offshoot from the ancient guild of the Weavers, and their arms were first granted by Thomas Benolt, Clarencieux, in 1530. The crest and supporters were subsequently granted to them in 1587, by Robert Cooke, Clarencieux; and that grant is here first printed from the original document.

To all and singular, as well Nobles and Gentels as others, to whome these presentes shall come, be seene, heard, read, or understood, ROBERT COOKE, Esquier, alias Clarencieulx Kinge of Armes, and Principall Heralde of the east, west, and southe partes of this Realme of England, sendethe greetinge in our Lord God euerlastinge.

Anciently from the beginninge the vertuous actes of worthey persons haue bene comended to the Worlde with sondrey monumentes and remembrances of their good desceartes, Emongest the which the chifest and most usuall hathe

bene the bearinge of Signes and Tokens in Shildes called Armes, beinge euident demonstrations and testimonies of Prowes and Valoir diuersly distributed accordinge to the qualities and deseartes of the persons meritinge the same; whiche order as it was prudently diuided to stirre vp and enflame the hartes of men to the imitation of vertue, euen sohathe the same bene continued from tyme to tyme and yet is continually observed to the entente that such as haue done comendable service to their Prince or Contrie, either in Warre or Peace, may therefore receaue due honor in their lyues, and also deriue the same successiuely to their Posteritie and Successours after them.

And whereas the Clotheworkers of the Citye of London are Incorporate by the name of Master Wardens and Comunaltye of ffremen of the arte or mistery of Clotheworkers of the Citye of London; and that they should be a perpetuall Comunaltye: and yerely chose one Master and foure Wardens of the men of the Comunaltye aforsayd to oversee, rule, and duly gouerne the said arte or misterye and all and singular the men of the same arte or misterye, and that they should haue a perpetuall succession and one comon Seale for the necessarye busines of the same arte or misterye sarue them for ever; which arte or misterye haue of longe continuance borne armes without either Healme, Creast, or Supporters; notwithstandinge for the greater Creadite and worshipe of the said arte or misterye; they haue Required me the said Clarencieulx Kinge of Armes to assigne unto these their auncient armes, a Creast and Supporters lawfull to be borne: In consideration of their Worthines, and at the enstant request of THOMAS WILLETT, Master of the said arte or misterye; JOHN BURNELL, JOHN ROBOTHAM, JOHN WALL, and LANCELOT YONG, Wardens of the said arte or misterye I have by power and auctlioritie to my Office annexed and Granted by letters patentes under the great Seale of England deuised, ordeyned, and assigned to the said Master and Wardens, and to their Successours in offyce and lyke place, and to all those enfranchised of the said arte or misterye, to their auncient armes the Creast and Supporters hereafter folowinge:

That is to say, upon the Healme, on a wreathe siluer and sables, on a mounte vert a Ram gold. The Supporters, two Griffens, gold pelletye; mantled, sables, doubled siluer as more playnley apperithe depicted in the margent. Which Creast and Suppporters I the said Clarencieulx Kinge of Armes, do ratifye, confirm, giue and graunte unto the sayde Master and Wardens, and to their Successours in lyke place and office, and to all the men enfranchesed of the saide arte or misterye of Clotheworkers within the Citye of London: they the same to use, beare, and shewe for ever in all places honest to their honor and worshipe on shielde, standard, banners, peanons, streamors, pencells, or otherwyse at their lyberty and pleasure, accordinge to the auncient lawes of armes, without impediment, lett, or interruption of any person or persons.

In witnesse whereof I the said Clarencieulx Kinge of Armes, haue hereunto subscribed my name and thereto put the Seale of my office the xxvth day of Marche, in the yere of our Lord God, 1587, and in the xxixth yere of the reigne of our most gracious Souvereigne Lady Queene Elizabeth. ROBT. COOKE, alias Clarencieulx, Roy d'Armes.

On sepulchral memorials, the arms of the London companies frequently occur, but of the Clothworkers, I have seen an instance only on a brass in Great Saxham Church, Suffolk, to the memory of John Eldred, the celebrated navigator, 1632.

The arms 'depicted in the margent,' are the same as now borne by the Company. They were confirmed to the Clothworkers, at the visitation of London, by HENRY ST. GEORGE, Knight, Richmond Herald, 1634. Edward Claxton, Esquire, being then Master.

Lee Road, Blackheath. J. J. HOWARD.

CHARLOTTE DE LA TREMOÜILLE, COUNTESS OF DERBY.

Can you oblige your readers with any account of Charlotte de la Tremoüille, Countess of Derby, and her defence of Lathom House?

Clifton, July 1. A SUBSCRIBER.

Charlotte de la Tremoüille was the second and only surviving daughter of Claude de la Tremoüille, Duke of Thouars (Peer of France, 1599;) by his wife Charlotte Brabantine, daughter of William the First, Prince of Orange, by his third wife, Charlotte de Bourbon, daughter of Louis, Duke of Montpensier.

Beautiful and accomplished, James Stanley, born Jan. 31, 1606, the heir apparent of William, sixth Earl of Derby, met with her at the Hague, upon his return from his travels, and though she was very young, they were married June 25, 1626, and by this union he became allied with the Houses of Nassau, Bourbon, and most of the sovereign Princes of Europe.

Upon his marriage, they appear to have participated in the gaieties of the Court of Charles the First. He was summoned to the House of Peers, as Baron Strange, in 1628. Bassompierre mentions his house being the resort of foreigners of distinction, and the name of the Countess is found frequently with those, who, with the Queen Henrietta Maria, took part in the masques and other diversions in the palace.*

Upon the death of his father in 1642, Lord Strange became seventh Earl of Derby, and on the king's declaration of war against his subjects, hastened to join his standard; and in support of the royal cause went to the Isle of Man, then menaced by the parliamentary authorities. While there, early in 1644, Lathom House, in which the Countess and her children resided, was attacked by Fairfax, but her admirable defence prevented its capture. It was for a time relieved, but of that and his other estates, the Earl was deprived by the Parliament; and to avenge the cruelties perpetrated by Prince Rupert, the Earl's plea of surrender on quarter for life was disregarded, and he was executed at Bolton, in Lancashire, Oct. 15, 1651. By letter dated Oct. 12, the Earl entreated the Countess to have regard to the safety of herself and children, and make terms for the rendering of the Isle of Man to the existing authorities, as all further attempts were hopeless. All happened as the Earl had foreseen, the parliamentarians obtained possession, and the Countess and her children were placed in rigorous confinement, but were after a period permitted to wander about, to seek alms and the precarious bounty of friends as impoverished as themselves. The advent of the Restoration at length partially restored the family estates to her eldest son Charles, the eighth Earl, at whose seat, Knowsley Hall, in Lancashire, the Countess subsequently resided, and died there March 21, 1663-4. She was interred on April 6th following at the family burial place at Ormskirk.

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* In Lodge's Portraits of Illustrious Personages, is a portrait of her when Lady Strange, engraved from a painting by Vandyke.

In the churchyard at Lavenham, Suffolk, is the following epitaph:—

Quod fuit esse, quod est, quod non fuit esse, quod esse;
Esse quod est, non esse, quod est non est, erit esse.
1694.

Will any of your readers favour us with a good translation.

July 1. W. B.

THE PORTEOUS OUTRAGE, 1736.

Few persons who have perused Scott's Heart of Mid-Lothian, will fail to remember the ample manner in which Porteous's outrage upon the people of Edinburgh at Wilson's execution is detailed in the second and third chapters of that Novel.* Scott appears to have drawn his material from the printed records of that day, but the narrative, full as it is, deviates in several particulars from the facts. In a garret-room at Culloden-House, among a mass of lumber was discovered, some time since, a pair of old saddle bags, into which had been thrust a number of letters, accounts, and other written papers, chiefly relating to the times of the celebrated President Forbes, and his son, John Forbes of Culloden. Duncan Forbes, it is well known, in the midst of his public cares and professional pursuits, had a decided taste for literature, and cultivated the acquaintance and conversation of authors. He was the friend and patron of Thomson and Allan Ramsay, and among these so adventitiously discovered thrown-by papers were two by the latter poet, which as proffering singularly detailed particulars of what really did occur at Wilson's execution, will doubtless be read with much interest. Ramsay's narrative addressed "To the Honourable Duncan Forbes of Culloden, his Majesty's Advocat for Scotland, Membr. of Parlt., London," was written on the day following the occurrence of this memorable affair; and is thus—

A true and faithful account of the Hobleshew that happened in Edinburgh, Wednesday the 14th of Aprile, 1736, at the hanging of Wilson, Housebreaker.

On the Sunday preceding, viz. the 11th, the two condemn'd criminalls, Wilson and Robertson, were taken as usual by four Sogers out of prison to hear their last sermon, and Wilson, who was a very strong fellow, took Robertson, by the headband of his breeks and threw him out of the seat, held a soger fast in each hand, and one of them with his teeth, while Robertson got over and throw the pews, pushed o'er the elder and plate at the door, made his escape through the Parlt. Close down the back stairs, got out of the Poteraw port before it was shut, the mob making way and assisting him; got friends, money, and a swift horse, and fairly got off, nae mair to be heard of or seen. This made them take a closer care of Wilson (who had the best character of them all till his foly made him seek reprisals at his own hand,) which had gained him so much pity as to raise a report that a great mob would rise on his execution day to relieve him, which noyse put our magistrates on their guard, and may be made some of them unco fley'd, as was evidenced by their inviting 150 of the regiment that lyes in the Cannongate, who were all drawn up in the Land Market, while the criminall was conducted to the tree by Captain Porteus and a strong party of the City Guard. All was hush, psalms sung, prayers put up for a long hour and upwards, and the man hanged with all decency and quietness. After he was cut down and the guards drawing up to go off, some unlucky boys threw a stone or two at the hangman, which is very common, on which the brutal Porteus, (who it seems had ordered his party to load their guns with ball) let drive first himself amongst the innocent mob, and commanded his men to follow his example which quickly cleansed the street, but left three men, a boy, and a woman dead upon the spot, besides several others wounded, some of whom are dead since. After the first fire he took it in his head, when half up the Bow, to order another volley, and killed a taylor in a window three stories high, a young gentlewoman, and a son of Mr. Matheson the Minister's, and several more were dangerously wounded; and all this from no more provocation than what I told you before, the throwing of a stone or two that hurt nobody. Believe this to be true, for I was ane eye-witness, and within a yard or two of being shot, as I sat with some gentlemen in a stabler's window opposite to the gallows. After this the crazy brute marched with his ragamuffins to the Guard, as if he had done nothing worth noticing; but was not long there till the hue and cry rose from them that had lost friends and servants demanding justice; he was taken before the Council, where there were abundance of witnesses to fix the guilt upon him. The uproar of a mob increased with the loudest din that ever was heard, and would have torn him, Council and Guard, all in pieces, if the magistrates had not sent him to the Tolbooth by a strong party, and told them he should be try'd for his life, which gave them some satisfaction and sent them quietly home. I could have acted more discreetly had I been in Porteus's place.

The persons here named are wholly unnoticed by Scott. Ramsay's communication appears to have been directed to the President, then Lord Advocate for Scotland, while attending to his parliamentary duties in London. It was enclosed in a letter written in a humble dependant tone, which our respect for the author of "The Gentle Shepherd" leads us to regard with something approaching to regret. Allan found but little profit to result from shaving—his bookselling venture was alike unprofitable, and his days were many of them passed in the sad mortification of penury and need. Ramsay's spelling has in both been retained.

Edinburgh, Aprile 15th, 1736.

My Lord—I wish I could light upon any opportunitys wherein I might show my readyness to serve, and show my gratitude for the regards that you have honoured me with. Will ye give me something to do? Here I pass a sort of a half-idle scrimp life, tending a trifling trade, that scarce affords me the needful. Had I not got a parcell of guineas from you, and such as you, who were pleased to patronise my subscriptions, I would not have had a gray groat. I think shame (but why should I, when I open my mind to one of your goodness?) to hint that I want to have some small commission, when it may happen to fall in your way to put me into it. Bookselling, good for nothing—Poetry, that's failed me, or rather my admirers have ceased to ferly—

* Waverley Novels, Abbotsford edition, vol. III., pp. 326-332.

Frae twenty-five to five and forty,
My Muse was nowther sweer nor dorty;
My Pegasus wad break his tether,
E'en at the wagging of a feather,
And throw ideas scour like drift,
Streeking his wings up to the Lift.
Then, then my saul was in a low
That gart my rhymes sae raffa row;
But eild and judgment 'gin to say,
Leave aff your sangs and learn to pray.

I hope to do something yet that may chance to please, and if I still have a place in your indulgence I'll be

Your Lordship's humble happy servant,
ALLAN RAMSAY.

GEORGE MORLAND'S PICTURES.

The Collection formed by the late Mr. Jesse Curling, of pictures painted by that pre-eminently distinguished artist GEORGE MORLAND, were sold by Mr. Quallett, New Bond Street, on the 11th inst. Most of them were painted at a period when his efforts justly obtained for him a lasting renown, and many of them were instantly recognizable from the generally disseminated prints which have been everywhere popularly estimated. His paintings are indeed incomparably faithful representations of rural life, and in the description of farm yards, village scenery, landscapes, cattle, fishermen, and smugglers on the sea-coast, Morland has never been surpassed.

The sight measure of each picture is added for the gratification of our country readers, and in addition to the prices, the purchasers' names.

4. Landscapes, a pair of cabinet pictures. On panel. Henry Stapylton, Esq. 9l.
5. Coast scene off Margate, fishing boats in the distance. On panel. 7¾ in. by 5¼ in. The same. 5l. 15s.
6. Girl with kitten, spiritedly sketched. On panel. 8½ in. by 7½ in. Matthew Hutchinson, Esq. 33l. 12s.
7. Three pigs eating turnips. 11½ in. by 6½ in. Henry Stapylton, Esq. 12l. 5s.
8. Tap-room fire-side, with group of five figures and accessories. On copper, carefully finished. 12 in. by 9½ in. John Curling, Esq. 17l. 6s. 6d.
9. Two men under a shady tree conversing, a dog sleeping on the ground. On panel, very rich in colour. 7 in. by 6 in. T. E. Eden, Esq. 12l. 12s.
10. The gravel diggers. On panel, highly finished. 8 in. by 6 in. J. H. Anderdon, Esq. 24l. 3s.
11. Winter Scene. Soldiers returning on furlough; cottages in the distance. On panel, carefully painted. 10½ in. by 7 in. Alderman Sidney. 12l. 1s. 6d.
12. Horses watering, landscape and ruins in back ground. On panel, dated 1794. 11 in. by 9 in. J. H. Anderdon, Esq. 28l. 7s.
13. The washing-day, with child in pond, and village church in the distance. 11 in. by 10 in. Alderman Sidney. 23l. 2s.
14. Road scene. Man on horseback enquiring the way, and another directing. 12 in. by 9½ in. Matthew Hutchinson, Esq. 19l. 19s.
15. The Rustic's proposal. 12 in. by 9½ in. Charles Curling, Esq. 47l. 5s.

An exquisite production, happily illustrative of the lines in the ballad—

He stammer'd and stutter'd, and let his hat fall,
Then grinn'd, scratch'd his head, and said—nothing at all.
If bashful the swain, no less bashful the maid,
She hung down her head, with her apron string play'd;
Whilst the old folks impatient the thing should be done,
Agreed that young Roger and Kate should be one.

16. Heath scene; Man dismounted; another cutting furze. Woodman's cottage in the distance. 14 in. by 10½ in. James Mitchell, Esq. 15l. 15s.
17. The old Posters, painted with masterly effect. 15 in. by 12 in. John Curling, Esq. 69l. 6s.
18. The Setters in Covert, a woodland scene of great merit, the dogs spiritedly delineated. 15 in. by 12 in. Vokins. 40l. 19s.
19. Noontide. Landscape, sheep reposing. Finely painted on panel, dated 1798. 15 in. by 12 in. Charles Curling, Esq. 248l. 17s.
20. The mussel gatherers, with their boat, on a rocky shore. On panel, painted with great care. 11 in. by 10 in. Vokins. 42l.
21. Roadside inn, drovers refreshing. Vigorously painted. 14 in. by 11 in. Vokins. 52*l.* 10*s.*
22. Wintry scene, sheep being housed for the night, 15 in. by 10 in. John Lye, Esq. 31l. 10s.
23. Landscape, figures in the foreground, old barn with sheep in the distance. On panel, painted with great care, dated 1796. 12½ in. by 10 in. Rought, Regent Street. 47l. 5s.
24. Coast scene, by moonlight, highly meritorious. 17 in. by 14 in. Alderman Sidney. 35l. 3s 6d.

The four following formed a series of hunting subjects well known from the engravings: the pictures are now dispersed.

25. The going out, settling the reckoning at the Fox inn; huntsmen and hounds in the distance. 26 in. by 20 in. Matthew Hutchinson, Esq. 74l. 11s.
26. Hounds going in covert, squire and huntsman on horseback. 26 in. by 20 in. John Lye, Esq. 36l. 15s.
27. The check, hounds at fault in the foreground; fox away in the distance. Very masterly. 26 in. by 20 in. Matthew Hutchinson, Esq. 79l.
28. In at the death, fox and hounds in the foreground, huntsmen climbing over the fence; dated 1794. 26 in. by 20 in. Haskett Smtih, Esq. 60l.
29. Rustic interior, the fireside on a winter's day. 25 in. by 20 in. Matthew Hutchinson, Esq. 53l. 11s.
30. Interior of a farm-house kitchen, rustics preparing their evening meal. 24 in. by 18 in. The same. 68l. 5s.

31. Land storm, figures sheltering themselves; stream with bridge in the distance. 24 in. by 18 in. Rought. 51l. 9s.
32. Sea storm, the wreck on shore, figures clinging to the rocks; the long boat in the distance. 25 in. by 20 in. Attenborough. 37l. 16s.
33. Pheasant shooting, a woodland scene, with gamekeeper and dogs. 25 in. by 20 in. Rought. 92l. 8s.
34. The hard bargain: interior of stable, figures dealing for a calf; a dog sleeping, and another in the middle distance. 26 in. by 20 in. Charles Curling, Esq. 131l. 5s.
35. The Gypsies: a rich woodland scene, gamekeeper leaning on style, in conversation with a group of gypsies, etc. 30 in. by 24 in. Richard Frankum, Esq. 55l. 13s
36. Thatchers repairing roof of roadside inn, horses in the foreground; and market woman in the distance, dated 1795. 30 in. by 24 in. D. T. White. 147l.
37. Innocence alarmed, an interior with figures, dogs, gamekeeper, etc., singularly brilliant, clear, and transparent. 36 in. by 30 in. Matthew Hutchinson, Esq. 224l 14s.
38. The Horse Fair; interior of stable, horses and figures about to attend the horse fair, seen in the distance. Admirably painted. 36 in. by 30 in. Charles Curling, Esq. 231l.

The produce of these paintings was 2173l., yet were they the products of the son of an obscure painter now designated 'Old Morland,' who subsisted late in life by the incessant toil of his son in producing drawings for sale—hence in the few hours of remission he sought solace among public-house companions, formed bad connexions, and imbibed intemperate habits, which destroyed his energies, and rendered him always poor, thus, many of his best pictures, those which will ever eternise his name among English artists, were painted with inconceivable rapidity in sponging-houses to raise means to redeem him from arrest, or in ale houses, to discharge his reckoning. He died in a sponging-house in 1804; and his wife, the sorrowing victim of his follies and inebriety, followed him, two days after.

MEMOIRS OF PUBLIC LIBRARIES.

Mr. Edward Edwards, Librarian of the Public Library, Manchester, has announced as preparing for speedy publication, Memoirs of Public Libraries; with a Practical Hand-book of Library Economy. The prospectus of this work shews amplified details of the vast labour and research which have attended the producing of a book, with such an admirable purport of utility and record. The whole is in three parts, each containing many subdivisions. The first comprises the History of the Libraries of the Antients, and the Monastic Libraries of the Middle Ages—General View of the Origin and Extension of Libraries in Modern Europe; the Imperial and Royal Libraries of Paris, Munich, British Museum, St. Petersburg, Copenhagen, Berlin, Vienna, and Dresden. The Public Libraries of Italy; the University and Town Libraries of Germany and France; the University, Collegiate, Cathedral, Town and Parochial Libraries, with the Proprietary and Public Libraries of Great Britain and Ireland. The Libraries of the United States of America.

Comparative Statistics of Books publicly accessible in the libraries of Great Britain, Europe, and the United States, and of the means afforded by Ewart's Public Library Act, 1855, for supplying those of the United Kingdom.

The Economy of Libraries, more especially of their formation; the collection of books by taxation, or copy-exaction from authors and publishers, by donation, by international exchange, or by purchase.

Designs and Projects for a great Public Library, elicited by recent propositions for the removal of the Imperial Library at Paris, with other Projects for Public Libraries, involving notices of the more celebrated edifices of St. Mark's Library, Venice; the Laurentian, at Florence; the Vatican, at Rome; the Brera, at Milan; the Bodleian and Radcliffe Libraries, at Oxford; St. Genevieve's, at Paris; the Ducal Library, Wolfenbuettel; the University, and Trinity College Libraries, Cambridge; the Imperial Library, St. Petersburg; the Royal Libraries, Copenhagen and Munich; and the British Museum Library.

The arrangement and preservation of Books, with the classification of Manuscripts, Prints, and Maps—followed by an Historical retrospect of Book-binding—describing the Monastic bindings in ivory, metals, and wood, carved, embossed, chased, and jewelled; bindings adorned with portraits, cameos, medallions, heraldic devices, and other ornaments. Embroidered or tambour bindings of velvet, silk, and damask. Embossed and stamped leather and vellum bindings, with the severally characteristic styles adopted in the libraries of Grolier, De Thou, Maioli, Hollis, and others. Notices of eminent Binders and their peculiarities.

Advantages and disadvantages of Alphabetical Catalogues, with the difficulties arising from the large number of anonymous and pseudononymous books. Collections on particular subjects; the publications of Societies, and Corporate Bodies.

Survey of the principal systems which have been proposed for the classification of Human Knowledge and Libraries, with the comparative merits of these Systems.

The Fifth and Sixth Books treat generally of the Management and Service of Public Reading Rooms, and of lending Libraries; with the Administrative Organization of a Public Library; followed by an Appendix of Bibliographical and Critical Notices of some pre-existing works on bibliothecal economy, and on the history of Libraries.

The author proposes to publish the work, with numerous illustrations, in two volumes, royal octavo. Price to Subscribers, 1l. 4s.

Subscribers' names are received by Messrs. Willis and Sotheran.

WILLIS'S CURRENT NOTES.

No. LXVIII.] "Takes note of what is done— By note, to give and to receive."—SHAKESPEARE. [AUGUST, 1856.

MEANING OF "UNIVERSITY NOMINALS."

During the reign of King Edward the Second, the University of Oxford was much prepossessed in favour of those who were termed 'Nominals,' whose peculiarity then as now consisted in the most rigid adherence to the signification of words, and of which class of persons, the following will afford a sufficient illustration.

Merton College being on the walls, and the Master and Fellows being desirous of a facility to walking in the meadows which were situated contiguously thereto; deputed three of their community to the king then at Woodstock, to ask his authority and permission. One of them, on their being presented to the king, signified that they were sent by the College to demand *licentiam faciendi ostium*—a licence or liberty to make a door; when a second immediately interrupted him, by saying that he was mistaken, as liberty to *make* a door was not a satisfaction to them, for so they might have a licence, and yet the door never be made; therefore, his desire was to have *ostium fieri*—a door *to be made.* On this the third insisted, that they were both in error, for by this request it might still be *in fieri*, but his petition was to have *ostium factum*,—a door *made.* Whereupon, the first replied, they were not so unmannerly as to desire a *door made*, for that was to demand the king to make them a door, yet simply desired they might have leave *posse ostium fieri*—to have it in their power to make a door; but the second again interposing, and the third as resolutely opposing the second, the king wearied by their squabble, intimated that though he understood their request, he would not give them satisfaction till they should agree in *modo loquendi.*

Oxford, August 4. P. B.

RUMP STEAK CLUB.—I have heard of the Beef Steak Club, but I am also told there is or was another, called the Rump Steak Club. Can any correspondent of Current Notes gratify your readers by some notice of it?

Cambridge, August 5. P.

Upon the Excise Scheme being rejected, King George the Second evinced his resentment against those Lords and Commons who opposed it, by turning his back upon them when they came to Court, upon which they formed themselves into a society, and designated themselves— the Rump Steak Club, adopting for their motto:

RUMPATUR QUISQUIS RUMPATUR INVIDIA.

The Toasts of the Rump Steak Club, were printed in a folio pamphlet, in 1734; but the Club has long since ceased.

THE SAINT GILES'S BOWL.

Burton, the historian of Leicestershire, mentions—At the hospital of Saint Giles in the Fields, without the bar of the Old Temple, London, and the Domus Conversorum, now the Rolls; the prisoners conveyed from the City of London towards Teybourne, there to be executed for treasons, felonies or other trespasses, were presented with a great bowle of ale thereof to drinke at their pleasure, as to be their last refreshing in this life. Parton, under the head of 'peculiar custom,'* states, before 1413, the gallows was removed from the Elms in Smithfield, and erected at the north end of the garden wall belonging to the hospital of St. Giles, on which spot between the ends of St. Giles's High Street, and Hog-lane now Crown Street, opposite to the place where afterward the pound stood, it continued till removed to Tyburn. The condemned criminals on their way to this their place of execution, usually stopped at the great gate of the hospital, where they as their last refreshment in this life, were presented with a large bowl of ale, whence the name of 'the Saint Giles's bowl.'

The custom was not so peculiar, but appears to have been an observance of Popish times. Saintfoix, in reference to Paris, observes, in those ages when literature had not yet civilized our manners, the execution of criminals was a kind of show, exhibited with no small state and solemnity, and often on holidays.† On their way to the place of execution, they were to stop at certain places, and among others, in the Court of the Daughters of God, where they had a glass of wine, and three bits of consecrated bread. This collation was called the patient's last bit; and if he eat with any appetite, it was looked upon as a good omen to his soul.

In accordance with this practice, we find in 1477, the Duke of Nemours who was beheaded in the Fish-Market at Paris, was led thither from the Bastille, on a horse caparisoned with black cloth, The rooms in the market-place appointed for his last resting-place, were lined with blue-grey serge, sprinkled with vinegar, and fumigated with a fire of juniper-wood, to overpower the smell of the flesh. Whilst he was confessing, his Commissaries were treated with wine, white-bread and pears. He was then brought out upon a scaffold made

* Some account of the Hospital and Parish of St. Giles in the Fields, 1822, 4to. p. 38.

† The same brutal malignity was evinced by King James the First, in the order for the execution of Sir Walter Raleigh, on the Inauguration day of the Mayor of London, 1618. This was done to evince his contempt for the citizens.

for that occasion, care having even been taken to newly stuff the cushion upon which he was to kneel; and the executioner after severing his head from the body, plunged it into a vessel of water, and held it up to the people. By order of the King, Louis the Eleventh, the Duke's children, the eldest of whom was but twelve years of age, were present on the scaffold, in white apparel, bare headed, and with folded hands, that they might be sprinkled with their father's blood! The fiend-like ovation over, the procession on its return was closed by one hundred and fifty Cordeliers holding lighted torches, the head and body of the Duke in an open coffin being borne before them. Money was given to them to bury him, and the whole chaunting proceeded on their way.

Pennant mentions, an anciently similar observance at York, occasioned the saying that 'the sadler of Bawtrey was hanged for leaving his liquor,' for that had he stopped as usual, his reprieve then actually on the road would have arrived in time to have saved him.

After the suppression of the Hospital, the ale appears to have been presented to criminals, at a house, that early in the seventeenth century, was known as 'the Bowl public house,' and gave name to Bowl-yard, which with Canter's Alley seem to have been the only places, or nearly so, built on the south side of the present Broad Street: the rest being for the most part, cultivated ground, known by the appellation of Great Garden. Bowl-yard was continued to Long Acre, by Belton Street, which, by an inscribed stone tablet, was erected in 1683; but modern improvements have demolished Bowl-yard, it is now named Endell Street; and the Swiss Church, with ale and bottle stores on each side as supporters, now occupy the site of the once well-known Bowl-Brewery.

LINES FROM AN EARLY MANUSCRIPT.

Fade, Flowers, fade! nature will have it so;
'Tis what all living must in autumn do:
And as your leaves lye listless on the ground,
The loss alone who loved them, will be found.

So in the grave shall we as quiet lye,
Miss'd by some few who liked our company;
But some so like to thorns and nettles live,
That none for them shall when they perish grieve.

On the fly-leaf of a copy of Tom Paine's Common Sense, sold among Ritson's books, were these lines:

On the King's Illness, 1789.

See the vengeance of Heaven! America cries,
George loses his senses, North loses his eyes;
When they strove to enslave us, all Europe will find,
That the tyrant was mad and his Minister blind.

Qu. Were these lines written by Tom Paine?

EDWARD F. RIMBAULT.

They were ascribed at the time to John Williams, better known as Anthony Pasquin. Ed.

EPITAPHIUM.

The Epitaph quoted in Current Notes, p. 62, by W. B., was inscribed to the Memory of John Wiles, of Lavenham, who died Dec. 16, 1691, ætat 50; the said epitaph appearing to be a paraphrase of two or three verses in the sacred Scriptures, viz.—

The thing that hath been, is that which shall be. *Ecclesiastes*, ch. i. v. 9.

That which hath been, is now, and that which is to be, hath already been. *Eccl.*, ch. iii. v. 15.

There is another line, which I cannot at this moment place my hand on, that has been frequently selected as the theme of one of the most delightful anthems in Canterbury Cathedral, and to which some of the young choristers there have given the most charming effect, so much so, that after a breathless silence and sympathetic attention of a most numerous congregation, I have sometimes heard pass from one to another, in pious admiration of the melodious powers of the youth, in a subdued whisper, the word "beautiful" involuntarily escaping from many lips on every side. The sentence is—Who was, and is, and is to come.

The literal translation of the epitaph in Lavenham Church, is as follows:—

That which a being was, What is it? show;
That being which it was, it is not now;
To be what 'tis, is not to be, you see;
That which now is not, shall a being be.

The following in the parish church of Horsham, Sussex, has a slight addition.

Quod fuit esse—quod est;
Quod non fuit esse—quod esse.
Esse quod est—non esse quod est:
Non est—erit—esse.
Vita malis plena est,
Mors pia—preciosa Corona.
Post Vitam Mors est:
Post mortem Vita beata.

What we have been, and what we are,
This moment, or the time that's past,
We cannot possibly compare,
With what we are to be at last.

Tho' fancy's flight has often ranged,
In search of form that ne'er has been;
We yet shall into that be changed
By ear unheard—with eyes unseen.

Like Him transform'd whose God-like soul,
Lay hid beneath the human shrine,
From flesh and sense, and earth's controul,
At once immortal and divine.

Life cursed with evils, then shall cease,
While faith, the Crown of glory shows;
For death succeeds to life, and this
At death commenced, unending flows.

Words of similar import occur in the Revelations, chap. i. verse 8. I am Alpha and Omega, etc.

Harbledown, August 20. M. D.

ADDISON'S RE-EDITED WORKS.

Addison's Works have again appeared; but in a new form, and with highly commendable additions. Bishop Hurd's edition, hitherto considered the most complete, having become scarcely possible of attainment, the new edition has opportunely been published to supply its place at a much less cost. The new edition comprises six volumes, the first four of which and a smallportion of the fifth contain all that constituted Bishop Hurd's edition; thus nearly two volumes are added from unpublished manuscripts, and in all nearly two hundred and fifty letters, wholly superseding for library purposes and utility all previous editions of this celebrated English classic.

In vol. v. p. 365, is printed a letter from Addison to Stepney, under the date 1707, which should have been placed to Dec. 17, 1706, and followed in at p. 356, after the letter dated Dec. 13.

Addison's letter, dated Dec. 20, pp. 356-7, transmitted to Stepney the news received from 'Lisbon, Dec. 17th.' that heading, therefore, at p. 356 is in error, Addison being then in London, not at Lisbon.

Addison's allusion, p. 365, 'They say Jack Howe, Mr. Blathwaite, and Prior shake,'* derives an interesting explanation from the amusing letter addressed by Prior to Lord Halifax, as the friend of Addison, who was under the immediate patronage of Lord Sunderland. These letters are truly valuable as illustrative of the times, and adducing personal details which have not hitherto been available to the biographer or poetical historian.

Duke Street, Westminster, Feb. 4, 1707.

My Lord,—It is too late to recapitulate the differences that have happened between us, or to dispute the reasons that occasioned them; it is properer at present to thank you for your generosity and assistance whenever you saw any danger threaten the man, whom you once honoured with the title of your friend. I know a great many ill people have endeavoured to calumniate me to your Lordship and to some of your friends, but I hope you know me well enough not to believe them, and though I may suffer the misfortune, I desire you to think I will not (as I have not hitherto) any way deserve the blame.

I am very much obliged to Sir James Montagu for his kind concerns in my poor affairs, and take this opportunity of assuring your Lordship that my respects to yourself and family are inviolable; and I appeal to him if, in all my discourses and actions, I have not upon all occasions, testified the truth of what I now write. I know no otherwise than from the rumour of the town, and a half intimation from a great man, who has always promoted my small interest, if I am to be continued in my present station or commanded elsewhere; in either case, I have reason to hope, my fortunes may not be diminished. The favour I would, therefore, desire of your Lordship is to mention me to my Lord Sunderland, with whom in every station (whilst I have the honour to continue in the service) I must have affairs, that his Lordship would receive me as a man who has obligations to my late Lord, his father, and who, by my diligence and duty in her Majesty's service, would deserve his favour and protection.

I must detain your Lordship one moment longer, amongst many prose afflictions, I have one that is poetical. Some rogue of a bookseller has made a very imperfect collection of what he calls my writings; the whole is mutilated, names printed at length, and things written near twenty years since mingled with some written the other day, in such a manner as may do me harm; part of *The Mouse* is likewise inserted, which I had little to say to, otherwise than as I held the pen to what Mr. Montagu dictated. I mention this, my Lord, desiring your Lordship to consider this book was printed without my knowledge or consent, and I add to it, that since I had the unhappiness of being separated from your Lordship's company, I never have written anything that could possibly merit yours or any of my friends' displeasure. I am ashamed to be your debtor so long as to pecuniary matters; in others, my Lord, your Lordship sees in what manner I desire to continue my obligations to you.

I am, with very great respect,
My Lord, your Lordship's most obedient
and most humble servant,
M. PRIOR.

Among the letters is one, dated June 27, 1710, from that distinguished antiquary, Sir Andrew Fountaine, to Swift, in reference to Addison; but so rich and racy in its invective and smartness of raillery that it is here extracted, in the hope that it will afford no little gratification to the reader.

I neither can nor will have patience any longer: and, Swift, you are a confounded son of a ——. May your half acre turn to a bog, and may your willows perish: may the worms eat your Plato, and may Parvisol* break your snuff-box. What! because there is never bishop in England with half the wit of St. George Ashe, nor ever a Secretary of State with a quarter of Addison's good sense; therefore you cannot write to those that love you, as well as any Clogher or Addison of them all. You have lost your reputation here, and that of your bastard, the Tatler, is going too; and there is no way left to recover either, but your writing. Well, 'tis no matter; I'll e'en leave London. Kingsmill is dead, and you don't write to me. Adieu.

Whiston, bookseller, at the Boyle's Head in Fleet Street, in an unpublished note on his father's life, in the Biographical Dictionary, writes: William Whiston being in company with Mr. Addison, Sir R. Steele, Mr. Secretary Craggs, and Sir Robert Walpole, they were busily engaged in a dispute whether a secretary of state could

* Addison, in defence of Garth and the Whigs, was politically opposed to Prior, who found the former a formidable opponent. His contempt of Prior induced the latter to level a shaft at him, at the end of his *Alma*, in the following lines:

For Plato's fancies what care I?
I hope you would not have me die
Like simple Cato in the play,
For anything that he can say.

Lord Halifax and Prior were also estranged by the Tory affinities of the latter; the Whigs were in the ascendant.

* Parvisol was the Dean's steward.

be an honest man? Whiston not intermeddling with it, was pressed to declare his opinion, which at length he did, by saying he thought honesty was the best policy, and if a Prime Minister would practise it he would find it so. To this Mr. Craggs replied, It might do for a fortnight, but it would not do for a month. Whiston asked him if he had ever tried it for a fortnight? to which, he making no reply, the company gave it for Mr. Whiston.

QUAINT EPITAPH.

The epitaph in Current Notes, p. 55, stated by your correspondent H. J. L. to have been recently placed in Whittlesea Churchyard reminds me of one I have heard quoted, though I cannot tell where it is to be found. Indeed I am of opinion that the Whittlesea epitaph is taken from it. It is as follows—

Weep not for me, my dearest dear,
I am not dead, but sleeping here;
With patience wait, prepare to die,
And then you'll come to sleep with *I*.
I do not weep, my dearest dear;
For I have wed a neighbour near.
I cannot come to sleep with thee,
For I must home to sleep with *she*.

August 9. M.

THE GRAVE TELLS NO TALES.

The publication of Lord Chesterfield's Letters in 1774, created such a disgust in the mind of the Hon. Frederick Keppel, bishop of Exeter, that to prevent any such similar occurrence in respect to himself, he by a codicil to his will, directed his Executor to bury in the coffin with him all manuscripts which should be found in his bureau. He died Dec. 27, 1777; and on examination, the manuscripts were no other than a collection of letters which he had received in the course of his life from some distinguished personages abroad and at home.

August 11. H. P.

Porson, though so admirable a scholar, wrote very little either Latin or Greek, and when he did, his style was rather of a witty than of a grave character. He was very fond of charades, of which the following is an example:—

TO MISS LAURA CROW.

Te primum incauto nimium propriusque tuenti
Laura mihi subito subripuisse queror,
Nec tamen hoc furtum tibi condonare recusem
Si pretium tali solvere merce velis:
Sed quo plus candoris habent tua colla secundo
Hoc tibi plus primum frigoris intus habet
Jamque sinistra cavâ cantavit ad illice totum
Omnia, et audaces spes vetat esse ratas.

T. F.

A translation of the preceding would be acceptable.

Ed.

Among the Corporation Papers in the Archives of Coventry, is the following interesting document in reference to the author of the Britannica Depicta, the translator of Virgil, and the publisher of several ponderous folios, enriched by the graphic labours of Hollar and other distinguished engravers.

May the 3rd, 1676.

Received the kind bounty of the City of Coventry, by the hands of Alderman Thomas King, being five pound, and is for a first volume of Britannica, bound and presented to the said City,

I say received by me,
JOHN OGILBY.

Witness
Will. Morgan,
Aquila Garfield.

CHRISTMAS CUSTOM IN NORFOLK.

Should the following notice of a custom, formerly prevalent at Tibenham in this county, be worth inserting in Current Notes, it is at your service.

An old farm labourer informed me, that when a young man, he lived at a farm to which was attached two large orchards, from which a large quantity of cyder of two qualities was made; that at Christmas the best cyder was tapped, and so long as the yule log or Christmas block was burning, say for some ten or twelve days, the servants had it in common.

The worst or slowest burning log was held in reserve by the servants till Christmas-tide, and till that was consumed, a small piece excepted, which was retained till another year for the purpose of setting fire to the new yule log, the general beverage of the family was the best cyder, of which two or more casks were made expressly for the occasion at least a twelve-month or more before it was required.

Such was then the good feeling between employers and the employed, that a sincere regard existed on each side, that both men and maids considered it to be their duty to contribute by every endeavour, by their service in every way, and on all occasions, to their master's comfort and prosperity—such good and kind feeling, arising from a pure and sincere love of regard and respect existing between them, is now become very rare indeed, and I much fear that with all our so-called enlightened education and improvements, they have not hitherto tended to exalt or improve the moral conduct of the rising generation.

The difference or distinction between master and servant is now so distant, that it hardly seems to be the same race of people; no reciprocity of feeling is shewn as formerly, and the family having ceased to have their servants taking their meals and lodging in the same house, has done much injury to their morals; they are no longer under the eye of the master, and when the work of the day is done, they seem habitually to frequent those pests of society—the beer-houses.

Norwich, August 8. GODDARD JOHNSON.

INEDITED LETTER—WOOLLETT TO BARTOLOZZI.

Sir,—I have heard with great surprise that I lay under your displeasure, and it would be with great reason that I should, was the conduct with which I am charged in the smallest degree true; but Sir, on the contrary, I have always regarded and spoken of you as the first artist in this kingdom, and so far from speaking disrespectfully of your abilities in drawing, it is a frequent expression of mine, 'I wish I could draw like Bartolozzi.'

I find it has been represented to you that I have found fault with a design for a fan, which you exhibited last year at the Royal Academy. In answer to which I positively declare that it is impossible I should express any dislike to a particular drawing of so much merit, when I am so great an admirer of your works in general: my collecting your prints, together with the testimony of every artist of reputation with whom I am acquainted, and have heard me speak of you, must sufficiently prove the opinion that I entertain of you as an artist, and the malignant insinuations and aspersions of those persons that have imposed upon you must, of course, fall to the ground; this I am ready to prove to you by the evidence of many, if you will be so good as to inform me who are my accusers. This, I conceive, I have a right to ask, in order to clear up my injured reputation.

I am, Sir, with great respect,
Your most obedient servant,
WM. WOOLLETT.

Green Street, Leicester Fields,
Jan. 24th, 1781.

The Bartolozzi family are now extinct. The last was the late Madame Vestris. She was the daughter of Gaetano Bartolozzi, an engraver of no repute—the skill of Francesco Bartolozzi did not descend to his son. Where or when his daughter Lucia Elizabeth was born, has long been a question in dispute, and many wagers have been the result, but never satisfactorily decided, and Madame constantly evaded the enquiry—she has said her birth did not occur in England—but the year is now stated to have been 1797.

In a volume of autographs of Theatrical Celebrities, Madame, while a Lessee, wrote the following lines—

I'm that Belle Sauvage, only rather quieter,
Like Mrs. Nelson turn'd a Stage Proprietor.

Olympic Theatre, ELIZA VESTRIS.
March 28, 1835.

L. E. Vestris, or Eliza Vestris, were her usual signatures. Mrs. L. E. Mathews, after a long and painful illness, died on Saturday, the 8th inst., at Gore Lodge, Fulham, in her 59th year; and in the morning of Thursday, the 13th, was interred at Kensal Green Cemetery. The funeral observances were very private, one mourning-coach, containing Mr. Charles Mathews, the physician who attended Madame in her last illness, and Mr. Morison, a private friend, followed the hearse.

ALONE IN THE WORLD.

The vaunted 'Well-beloved' Louis the Fifteenth died in 1774, and the new ministry, appointed on the advent of his successor, having more kindly views, were determined to abate the iniquitous oppressions of the preceding reign. Thus, one of the leading acts of their clemency was an inspection and revision of the registers of those confined as state prisoners in the Bastille, but in reality in many cases immured there solely under the malign influence of individuals. Many were liberated, and among them one who had been pent within the chill and damp walls of a narrow cell during forty-seven years. Closed from all communication with mankind, beholding no face, nor hearing any voice but that of the gaolers, who in succession, had daily to provide him with food during nearly half a century, he had endured all these horrors with untiring constancy, although wholly unapprised of the existence or fate of his family or relations.

At length, an unusual noise broke upon the stillness of the confines of his cell, the door opened, and a voice he had not heard before bade him—Come forth! He scarcely knew the import of the words, and, not daring to trust his senses, fancied it a dream. The mandate repeated, he advanced with hesitation, and with trembling steps reached the stairs of his prison; bewildered and confounded as he passed on, the hall, the court, and every space that met his eye seemed immense and vast beyond bounds. Stupified with the novelty of all he saw, his sight became incapacitated to sustain the strong glare of the broad daylight, and he stood still with fixed eyes, unable to move or speak, questioning the reality of his own feelings. Admonitory accents fell on his ear to proceed, and with some further efforts, in which he was partially assisted, he passed beyond the main entrance.

With some consideration, a carriage there awaited to conduct him to where he said he had formerly lived, but the motion affrighted and hurt him. He begged to be released, and supported on his way, was led to the street in which was his former habitation; but the house was no longer there! on its site stood proudly a public edifice. None of the objects which were there in his youth had remained; the buildings, of which he had retained a partial recollection, had all changed their appearance. Even the passers by were to him a new race, and though he looked anxiously in their faces, he knew them not, nor did they know him. His remembrance of all things seemed passed, and he stood motionless and bewildered. Surrounded by living beings, he recognised no one, nor they him; tears involuntarily relieved the acuteness of his feelings, and in the earnestness of his sorrow, he entreated to be conducted back to his lost home—the cold and dreary cell.

His antiquated appearance, his prison garb, the mention of the Bastille, and his imploring to experience it again as an asylum soon caused a great crowd to congregate. The oldest present thought of others still older, who might be able to afford him some solution of his inquiries respecting his family. At last an old man appeared, whose infirmities had rendered him unable to

work for fifteen years, but who had been a servant in his family—he failed to recognise his former master, and in reply to the inquiries as to his wife, said she had died of grief and want thirty years gone by; his agonised questions as to his children, elicited simply some were dead, others had gone abroad, but where no one knew. No one of the friends he had borne in recollection were then living, and the old man's answers were uttered with all the stolidity and indifference of one who was speaking of events ordinarily long since passed and almost forgotten.

Wretched and unhappy, he felt the excess of his misery more amidst the crowd of strangers, no one of whom was in a condition to sympathise with him, though in a state of freedom, than before, when in his frightful solitude. He sought the minister by whose compassion he had been set at liberty, and throwing himself at his feet, begged of him to be sent back to the prison from whence he had freed him. Who, said he, can survive all his friends, all his relations, an entire generation? Who can hear of the loss of every one who was dear or known to him, without wishing for himself the solace of the grave? All these deaths, which come one by one and by degrees upon other men, have fallen upon me in one instant. Separated from society, I lived by myself; here, I can neither live by myself nor with strangers, to whom my despair can only appear as a dream. It is not to die that is terrible; it is, to die the last.

The minister, moved with commiseration, directed everything that humanity could suggest to alleviate his sorrows. His old servant was placed in attendance on him, and with him he retired into a seclusion in the heart of Paris, hardly less solitary than the cell that had been his abiding place for nearly half a century. His only consolation was to converse with him about his wife and children, with one constant result; a short period terminated his existence, and the thought that to the last appeared uppermost in his mind, was the impossibility of his ever encountering any one who could say to him—we have seen each other before—in fact, that he was alone in the world.

Herbert Croft, in his biography of Dr. Young, the author of the Night Thoughts, states—Young and his housekeeper were ridiculed with more ill nature than wit, in a kind of novel called The Card, published by Kidgell, in 1755; under the names of Dr. Elwes and Mrs. Fusby. Who and what was this Kidgell? I have met with his name before, in no very praiseworthy situations.

Chelmsford, August 10. S. C.

John Kidgell, rector of Godstone, in Surrey, he fled, not for his merits, from England, and died at Brussels, in May, 1781.

P. 57, col. 2, line 3 from foot, for Mousehouse, read Mousehole.

HENHAM EVENING BELLS.

Hark! now I hear those ev'ning bells,
What doleful tales their music tells:
Of pleasures past, of hours mis-spent,
Of youth to senseless vices lent;
Of childish joys in days of yore,
Of merry playmates now no more;
Of all that frightful change of things,
Which each succeeding season brings.
Softly ring on, melodious peal;
Your soft persuasive strains I feel,
Which give refreshment to the soul,
By calling to its proper goal:
For though each soul entrancing knell,
Seems some fair image lost, to tell
Of love entomb'd, of friendship dead,
Of infant hopes for ever fled;
And calls to mind the early time
When first I heard your melting chime
At life's and daylight's infant dawn,
When cocks first blew the trump of morn,
Bounding, I sallied forth to play
Free—on the festive holiday.
Since which old times, the silv'ry head
Of fond paternal counsel's dead;
The child that was the ev'ning star
Of youthful pastime dwells afar;
The trusty dog, my father's pride,
Is swallow'd in Time's gulphing tide;
And fierce Erynnis tramples down
Those childish hopes, we now disown.
Yet still! ye soft melodious bells,
A tale of joy your music tells
To faithful flocks assembled here,
To drink of holy water clear;
For in the dusky cloister damp,
Where Vigilance hath lit her lamp,
The white wing'd angel Hope appears,
And my desponding genius cheers.
Hark! yet aloud the tuneful bells
Are sounding, still their magic spells
Which quell all harms and call the sheep
The vigils of pure Faith to keep,
Cheering the soul to hold in view
For faithful flocks, green pastures new
In those bright realms, fair Virtue's seat,
Where kindred souls again will meet.
The taper steeple points the way:
The cock upon the vane doth say—
Then follow me, nor turning round
To ev'ry blast that sweeps the ground;
But by a watchfulness on high,
Bend to the spirit of the sky.
Then jingle on, melodious bells,
Of many hopes your music tells.

Quendon. T. F.

Argument may be overcome by stronger argument, and force by greater force, but truth and force have no relation—nothing in common, nothing by which the one can act upon the other. They dwell apart, and will continue to do so till the end of time.—*Pascal.*

NOON-DAY LINES PRESENTED WITH SOME VIOLETS.

Did Letty know when pearl'd with dew,
How sweet these graceful violets grew,
Beside the thorny brake;
Or, breathe the fragrant morning air
O'er beds of primroses blooming fair—
Your pillow you'd forsake.

For paler than th' autumnal leaf,
Or the wan hue of pining grief,
The cheek of Sloth will grow;
Perfume, nor wash, nor scented ball,
Can Nature's ruddy tints recall,
When once you let them go.

ORDER OF THE BLUE JACKET OR HUNTING COAT.

When Louis the Fourteenth had once established the opinion that he was the unlimited lord of the greatest monarchy in Europe, the slightest marks of favour became objects of ambition to men, who, like the French, are eager for all reputation. In 1661, Louis made a promotion of eight prelates and sixty-three knights of the order of St. Esprit, which had not since 1633, received any new knights, and seems to have fallen into neglect, if not contempt.

On this occasion, the King, in his Instructions to his Son, remarks that 'no recompence costs less to our people, and none touches hearts that are rightly constituted, more than these distinctions of rank, *which are almost the first motive of all human actions*, but especially of the greatest and the most noble; it is besides, one of the most visible effects of our power to give, when we please, an infinite value to that which in itself is nothing.'* It is indeed one of the most surprising instances of the power of kings, and the fatuity of subjects! On the same solid grounds the king subsequently created a new order, and called it by his own name. The *just-a-corps à brevet* was another, and very peculiar invention for distinction: it was a coat or jacket of blue, embroidered with gold and silver, similar to one used by the king, which entitled the wearer to accompany his Majesty in his promenades at St. Germain, and to belong to his parties to Versailles or Marly. One of these brevets, signed by Louis, and countersigned Guenegaud, is preserved in the collection of the works of Louis the Fourteenth. Only a certain number were allowed; and on the death of a member, his jacket became as great a subject of contention as the armour of Achilles in the Grecian army.† This desirable distinction seems at bottom to have been a hunting coat.

* Œuvres de Louis Quatorze, tom. i. p. 143.

† Memoirs of the Affairs of Europe, 1824, pp 145-146. The editor says, there was no further question of them after the peace of Aix-le-Chapelle in 1679; this does not appear to be the case. St. Simon talks of seeing the sons of the Dauphin dressed in them, and Dangeau mentions the death of a person who had the *just-a-corps rose*, long after the period mentioned. The distinction of *just-a-corps bleu*, and *just-a-corps rose*, is a mystery which my researches do not enable me to explain.

NOTES BY A BOOKSELLER.*

John Gay, the ingenious poet, whom Pope styles—

Of manners gentle, of affections mild;
In wit a man, simplicity a child.

Yet this character is proved untrue by the strong passions of which he was possessed, and the disappointment of which hurt him much, as we find in his life. I believe his Beggars' Opera did more harm to unthinking youth than all that Collins, Tindal, or Chubb ever wrote, for that gilded over iniquity with the veil of applause, and makes a hero of a debauched highwayman; encourages a daring thoughtlessness, and destroys the regard for serious consideration so absolutely necessary for our proper behaviour in life. Too feelingly I speak this, as I am persuaded I received much mischief from the strong impression this piece had on my lively imagination, and laid the foundation of the great misery I now suffer in a most exquisite degree.

His Achilles in Petticoats, is an absurd composition, not founded upon any history, or fable, or probability, and full of indelicacy. His Pastorals are natural and pleasing, ingenious and decent. The Trivia, a humourous and elegantly descriptive poem, but an heroic poem on so trivial a subject can only be looked on as a burlesque on some serious heroic poem, I should suspect it on Addison's Campaign.

William George, D.D, a very learned, friendly, and facetious gentleman, was bred at Eton School, and then at King's College, Cambridge. Married Catherine, a daughter of Dr. Henry Bland, Master of Eton School, afterwards Provost of Eton and Dean of Durham. When Dr. Bland resigned the school, Dr. George succeeded as Head Master from the station below it. He was an excellent Grecian and good critic. He was a King's Chaplain, and I have often with pleasure dined with him at their room, for he was very agreeable company. He had good nature, but no politeness of behaviour, which was fully compensated by his open sincerity. He was a kind friend to me. He loved learned men, and was a ready encourager of their labours. His lady, very agreeable and good tempered at all times, studied to oblige him in everything. Oh! had mine in the year 1758 done so, misery had not come as it did, and vexation brought despair and ruin on poor ME, by overheating my anger.

Dr. George published nothing that I know of, but a sermon preached before the House of Commons, about 1730. Some years before he died, he was promoted to be Provost of King's College and Dean of Lincoln. He died in 1756, leaving a handsome provision for his widow and two daughters.

He left a well-chosen library, which was sold to

* John Whiston, a son of the celebrated William Whiston, and formerly associated with Osborne and others, as the publishers of the Biographical Dictionary, 1761-2, in eleven volumes, 8vo. These unpublished notes are copiously embodied in a copy of that work intended for a new edition, and are replete with much personal and private anecdote.

Lord Spencer for fourteen hundred guineas, which was, I think more by two hundred guineas than their value, for I estimated them carefully.*

THE BARRIECO, OR BARAECO?

The Estii, a tribe of Sclavonians, who inhabited the province now called Esthonia, on the Baltic, appear at a very remote period, to have migrated into Spain, and occupied a tract of country in Castile, comprehending Salamanca, Ciudad Rodrigo, Gallegos, and the banks of the Coa river; for Tacitus states that these wild people venerated the goddess mother under the image of a wild boar, which they carried with them on all their expeditions, and at this hour the rudely carved granitic images of a wild boar, or bear, or hippopotamus, are to be seen built into the Roman bridges of Salamanca and Ciudad Rodrigo, and also near the churches of Gallegos and San Felices, on the Coa. The name given by the Spaniards to these figures, is the Barrieco, or the roaring animal, from *barus*, grave; and *echo*, sound. Masdeu, in his Historica Critica de Espana, vol. v. p. 44, mentions the Barrieco or Baraeco, as a divinity unknown to the Romans. In the territory of Lisbon, was found the following inscription—

AMMINVS
ANDIATTAE. F. BANDIAR. BARIAICO.
VOTUM L. M. S.

and another at Ruanes in Gallicia, thus:—

RAVVEANA. BARAECO
AFER
ALBINI. F. TVROLVS
V. S. L. M.

but Masdeu was unable to render any explanation of these inscriptions, the Baraeco, being as he observes, the most obscure article of the ancient mythology of Spain; it would seem however, to have been to this divinity that the Romans applied the appellation of Numen Porcinum.

Judæus licet et *porcinum numen* adoret
Et cœli summas advocet auriculas
Ne tamen et ferro succideret inguinis oram
Et nisi nudatum solveret arte caput.
Petronii Arbitri Fragmenta, ed. Jo. Maire. p. 101.

The peasantry of Exmoor, in Devonshire, still call a sow, a Baarge; a corruption of Baraeco, or rather the latter word is derived from the former, which is Celtic.

Can any reader of Current Notes, render any further elucidation of this little known mythological subject.

A. N.

* The acquisition of this collection to the Spencer library was extremely fortunate. In that portion are the greatest rarities in English Literature, which still enrich that glorious depositary. In Whiston's time, early English poesy was at a low ebb, but among Dr. George's books were many uniques, which were probably considered mere trifles, waifs, or strays in the Cathedral library of Lincoln. Be it as it may, the late Dr. Dibdin took a hint, had a dig at the same mine, and produced a nugget—the Lincolne Nosegay. Ed.

JOHNSTON'S LIFE OF LINACRE.

Among the memorable families of Derbyshire is that of Linacre; and that county has been accredited as the birthplace of Thomas Linacre, the eminent physician; he was the tutor and friend of Sir Thomas More, Physician to King Henry the Eighth; and Founder of the College of Physicians in London. Sometime since being desirous of the printed life of that eminent man, I was told it was *not procurable*. Can any reader of Current Notes state the reason? for the party I employed was unable to give me the slightest information.

Edinburgh, August 17. M. D.

The reason is not generally known, and when told may possibly startle our correspondent. The volume was printed in 1835, 8vo. pp. 264. There were 750 copies printed at the joint expense of Mr. Robert Graves, the editor, and Mr. Edward Lumley, the publisher. A few were demanded by public libraries under the copyright act, and some few copies were forwarded to the reviewers. The Literary Gazette denounced it vehemently, although the copy sent to the Editor of that Journal, subsequently became the property of the writer, *wholly uncut*. The book was advertised, but only one copy was called for by one of the wholesale houses in the Row, and the volume was soon after thus disposed of—Messrs. Graves and Lumley retained each twenty-five copies; and the residue, more than 650 copies, was sold in quires to the paper maker, at nine shillings per ream.

Dr. Johnston in this work, places the birth of Linacre to about the year 1460, at Canterbury.

ROYAL BOOK-BORROWER.

August 31, 1422, being the Monday next following the Feast of the decollation of St. John the Baptist, between two and three o'clock in the morning, died at Bois Vincennes in France, Henry the Fifth, King of England. History has proudly distinguished him as a warrior, but he was disposed to reading, and in the paucity of books in the royal library was constrained to borrow from his subjects, and after his decease several were claimed by their owners.

In 1424, the Countess of Westmoreland presented a petition to the Privy Council, representing that the late king, Henry, had borrowed from her a book, containing the Chronicles of Jerusalem, and the Expedition of Godfrey of Boulogne, and praying that an order might be issued under the privy seal for the restoration of the said book. It was granted with much formality.

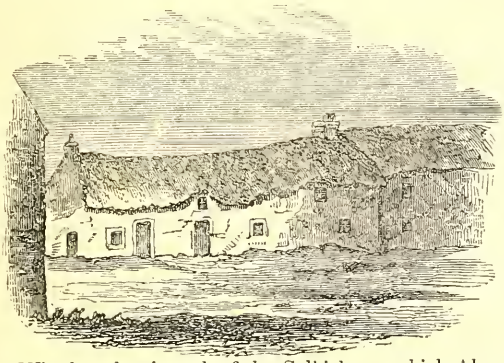
John, prior of Christ Church, Canterbury, also presented a similar petition to the Privy Council, stating that the late king had borrowed from his priory a volume containing the works of St. Gregory; that he had not returned it, but that in his testament he had directed its restoration. It was then in the possession of the Prior of Shine (now Shene, near Richmond), who refused to relinquish it. The Council, after mature deliberation, directed a precept, under the privy seal, to be sent to the Prior of Shine, requiring him to restore the volume, or to appear before the Council to state the reasons of his refusal.

WILLIS'S CURRENT NOTES.

No. LXIX.] "Takes note of what is done—
By note, to give and to receive."—SHAKESPEARE. [SEPTEMBER, 1856.

NEW FACTS RESPECTING ROBINSON CRUSOE.

The original of De Foe's Robinson Crusoe, it is now generally admitted was Alexander Selkirk or Selchraig, a native of the parish of Largo, in Fifeshire. Several families of the same name resided at the time in the same place, and had long been settled in the fishing village of Nether Largo, romantically situated on the margin of the German Ocean. Here, about a mile distant from the parish kirk, was the spot of Alexander Selkirk's birth, in or about 1676; and although the year has not been certified by any entry in the parochial registry of Baptisms, nor in any known record, still the house in which he was born is well authenticated, and remains in much the same primitive condition in its form as when built. In the annexed view, it is engraved for the first time —



Whether that branch of the Selkirks to which Alexander was more immediately related inherited their quarrelsome habits from their father or their mother, the latter of whom it appears was a person of an unsteady and discontented nature, or as quaintly admitted in her own words 'of a troubled spirit,' it would be idle to attempt to determine; yet certain it is, that the scenes of family strife, which occurred within the house above represented, were the immediate cause of his leaving that home, and assuming a position in life, which by the graphic pen of De Foe has eternised him as a hero of imperishable notoriety.

The Selkirk family appear to have been naturally turbulent, and from the Sessional records, it is clear, that Alexander's elder brother John, in 1685, a married man with a family, also at times afforded the Kirk Session occasion to anathematise his dissolute conduct. During the summer of 1693, he was 'rebuked' for being drunk, and striking some of his neighbours; again, in the autumn of the same year, he, with a namesake, did penance 'for being drunk in a mercat at Leven;' other instances might be adduced from the same unerring record of the attempts to reform their ill doing.

Alexander Selkirk's occupation is not stated, probably he followed his father's calling, that of a tanner and shoemaker; his reprehensible conduct however in 1695, placed him under the ban of the Kirk Session, to avoid the oppressive tyranny of which, it is recorded, he fled to sea, and hence commenced a career that at a later period earned him a never-dying name in the annals of the world. The Sessional registers notice —

August 25. The qulk day, Alexander Selchraig, son to John Selchraig elder, in Neither Largo, was delated for his undecent carriage in the church. Ordered to be cited before the Session.

August 27. The qulk day, Alexander Selchraig called, but did not compear being gone away to the sea. This business is continued till his return.

When he returned does not appear, but he was at home in 1701, and took a prominent part in some family squabbles, which occasioned the following recorded proceedings in the Sessional register of that year.

Nov. 18. John Guthrie delated John Selcraige elder, and his wife Euphan Mckie, and Alexander Selcraig, Andrew Selcraige, for disagreement together; and also John Selcraige and his wife Margaret Bell. [All ordered to appear on 25th inst.]

Nov. 25. Euphan Mckie confessed that she desired to be separate from her husband, but she said she was of a troubled spirit, and that she thought her words should not be laid hold one; she said she is now in better termes with her husband.

John Selcraige elder being enquired what was the occasion of the tumult in his house, said, he knew not, but that Andrew Selcraige having brought in a canefull of salt watter of which his brother Alexander did through mistake take a drink, and he laughing at him for it, his brother Alexander came andbeat him; upon which he rūne out of the house and called his brother John. John Selcraig elder being again questioned what made him to sit one the floor with his back at the door? he said, it was to keep doun his sone Alexander who was seeking to go up to get his pistole, and being enquired, what he was to do with it? he said, he could not tell.

Alexander Selcraige called, compeared not, because he was at Coupar: he is to be cited *pro secundo* against the next Session.

John Selcrage younger being questioned concerning the tumult in his father's house on Nov. 7, declared that he being called by his brother Andrew came in to it, and when he entered the house, his mother went out, and he seeing his father sitting one the floor with his back at the door was much troubled and offered to help him up, and to bring him to the fire, at which time he did see his brother Alexander, in the other end of the house, casting off his coate, and coming towards him; whereupon his father did get betwixt

them, but he knew not what he did otherwayes, his head being borne down by his brother Alexander, but afterwards being liberated by his wife, did make his escape.

Margaret Bell, [wife of John S.,] deponed that Andrew Selcraige came running for her husband John, and desiring him to go to his father's house; which he doing, the said Margaret did follow her husband, and coming into the house, she found Alexander Selcraige gripping both his father and her husband, and she labouring to louse Alexander's hands from her husband's head and breast, her husband fled out of doors, and she followed him, and called back again—You fals loon will you murder your father and my husband both? Whereupon he followed her to the door, but whether he beat her or not, she was in so great confusion, she cannot distinctly tell, but ever since she hath a sore pain in her head.

Nov. 29. Alexander Selcraige, scandalous for contention and disagreeing with his brothers compeared and confest that he having taken a drink of salt watter out of the cane, his younger brother Andrew laughing at him for it, he did beat him twice with a stafe. He confest also that he had spoken very ill words concerning his brothers, and particularly he challinged his elder brother John to a combate as he called it, of dry neiffells; he said then he would not care to do it even now, which afterwards he did refuse *and regrate;* moreover, he said several other things, whereupon the Session appointed him to compear before the pulpit against to-morrow, and to be rebuked in face of the congregation for his scandalous carriage.

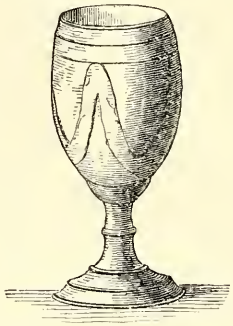
Nov. 30. Alexander Selcraige according to the Session's appointment compeared before the pulpit and made acknowledgement of his sin in disagreeing with his brothers, and was rebuked in face of the congregation for it: he promised amendment in the strenth of the Lord, and so was dismissed.

The next that is with certainty known of Alexander Selkirk, is the fact, that while sailing master of the ship Cinque Ports, in 1704, he quarrelled with the captain of that vessel, and by way of punishment was put on shore on the uninhabited island of Juan Fernandez in the Pacific Ocean, with a chest containing cloathes, a hatchet, and a firelock, with some powder and shot, and that there he contrived to live till he was picked up by Captain Woodes Rogers, in 1709, and brought to England.

The firelock, his cloathes, chest, and drinking cup, used on the island, were brought home by him to his native village; and with the exception of the firelock, now at Lathallan House, near Largo; the rest remain in the house in which he was born. The house, nominally at least, the property of Mrs. Gillies, a poor widow, is tenanted by her; she is the daughter of John Selkirk, grand-nephew of Alexander Selkirk, is 78 years of age, and has been the mother of a large family, all of whom have preceded her to their last home.

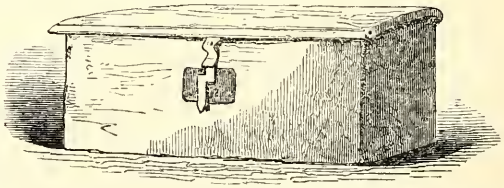
Widow Gillies is the last survivor of the family to which Selkirk belonged, and her circumstances are such, that she is dependant on the benevolence of those who visit her interesting cottage, and the relics of her far-famed predecessor: visitors it must be admitted are not a few, some of them are and have been persons of high literary distinction: among them not the least memorable was the master spirit of the North, Sir Walter Scott, and his publisher Constable, the latter of whom, in consequence of the notices recorded respecting Selkirk in the parish registers, rebound them handsomely at his own cost; the upper side of each volume being inscribed—Rebound for preservation at the expense of Archibald Constable, of Balneil, 1820.

The drinking cup formed of a small cocoa-nut shell; (the simple ornament shewn in the woodcut—



having been the work of Alexander Selkirk,)—is three inches and a quarter deep, by two and a half inches diameter. Mrs. Gillies assured the writer, it had formerly a silver foot and stem, but that her father had disposed of it. Wanting that appendage, Sir Walter and Constable took it to Edinburgh, where the present foot and stem of rosewood nearly three inches high, was added, making the whole about six inches in height. They also added the silver band or fillet, that encircles the outside of the cup, bearing this inscription—The Cup of Alex. Selkirk, whilst in Juan Fernandez, 1704-9.

The cloathes-chest, designated by the family in Mrs. Gillies's youth, 'the cedar kist,' from the top being made of cedar wood, is two feet deep, eighteen inches wide, and three feet long. At one end is a small drawer or 'locker,' with a rudely ornamented lid. The asp of the lock, as shewn by the woodcut—



was a coarse strong sort of fastening, now useless. Upon the top of the slightly rounded lid, are the letters A. S., and the figures 34, being the number of the chest on board Capt. Woodes Rogers' ship at the time he was homeward bound; there are also scratched with some sharp instrument, four angular marks equi-distant; all the contents of the chest as may be premised are few—the drinking cup, a copy of De Foe's Novel of Robinson Crusoe, and the rusted key, long since past use, are all it contains.

Brechin. A. J.

ORIGIN OF SMOKING TOBACCO.

Columbus in his first voyage of discovery, on his returning entered the port of Nipe, in Cuba, Oct. 28, 1492, and on the following day, believing the coast to be that of Asia, left it in hopes of finding the city, which induced by the Indians he believed lay to the westward. On Nov. 2 he deputed messengers to confer with the great king, who was supposed to govern this vast continent, but on the fourth day of their absence, they returned; they had found no Eastern magnificence, but simply a town about twelve leagues distant. These messengers, in the course of their journey, observed for the first time the application of Tobacco to smoking. This was described as being in the form of a roll of a large quantity of the leaf, one end of which was on fire, the smoke being inhaled by the mouth from the other, a process which occasioned the Spaniards much surprise. Thus, observes Navarrete, was the first lesson given to Europeans, of this extraordinary habit, that has become universal; and hence the origin of the so-much prized and so far celebrated Havanas. The natives on being questioned why they adopted the practice, replied as well as they could be understood, that it prevented them from feeling fatigue. Las Casas, the Spanish historian, is the first to exclaim against the custom, being unable on his part to discover the benefit that was to be derived from it; but Navarrete inadvertently supplies a satisfactory answer, one that applies to other states, besides that of Spain, in simply observing—Who would have supposed, that this new and curious vice could have become so general, as to be one of the most profitable sources of revenue to the State? This after all appears to be the most beneficial result of the use of the weed in all the various ways in which it is applied. Capt. Becher, in his recently published admirable work, the Landfall of Columbus, p. 356, observes—Here, as stated by Las Casas, is the origin of smoking tobacco, a practice which however extensive it may be in other countries, has become so general in this, that to the discredit of parents, it is even followed by children! the eternal cigar is seen in the mouth of old and young, even in that of the ragged urchin, who swaggers along not only astonishing those who see him at his early hardihood, but leaving them to speculate how he came by it, considering the price which must have been paid for it. Profitable indeed it is to the State, but indulged in to the cost of the pocket, the health, and the personal comfort of society, as the following statement from an official source of the amount of duty derived from Tobacco in the United Kingdom, for the last three years will substantiate:—

1853 . . .	4,560,827*l.*
1854 . . .	4,751,776*l.*
1855 . . .	4,704,663*l.*

These are tolerably good round sums, contributing to the benefit of the State, if not of its subjects; and as may be added—wholly blown off in a whiff!

PORSON'S LATIN CHARADE.

The very elegant charade attributed to Professor Porson, Current Notes, p. 68, is incorrectly printed. I send you the true version, and the subjoined translation is much at your service, if you should think it worthy of insertion in your very amusing and instructive Current Notes.

TO MISS LAURA CROW.

Te primum incauto nimium propiusque tuenti
  Laura mihi subito surripuisse queror;
Nec tamen hoc furtum tibi condonare recusem,
  Si pretium tali solvere merce velis;
Sed quo plus candoris habent tua colla secundo,
  Hoc tibi plus primum frigoris intus habet;
Jamque sinistra cavâ cantavit ab ilice totum
  Omina, et audaces spes vetat esse ratas.

TRANSLATION.

My first, while too fondly I gaze,
To my sorrow, O Laura! you stole;
And yet I the theft could e'en praise,
If you gave me yourself, as a whole;
But your breast, than my second more white,
My first, still more chilling, conceals;
Whilst my whole, from yon oak's airy height,
On the left, my destruction reveals.

Newport, Essex. WILLIAM HILDYARD.

The following is a free rendering of Porson's charade, in Current Notes, p. 68: —

TO MISS LAURA CROW.

Too rashly lifting thy protecting veil,
My stolen first, dear Laura, I bewail:
And yet 'twere venial theft, my lips would say,
Wouldst thou in kindred ware the price repay;
But in thy first, my second's coldness dwells,
The more its whiteness thy fair neck excels;
And hark! my whole perch'd on the hollow oak,
Chides my bold wishes with ill omen'd croak.

CORNIX.

CHRONOGRAMS.—The Epistle Dedicatorie to Sir Miles Sandys' Prudence, the first of the Foure Cardinall Virtues, 1634, duod., ends thus —

pIVs IesVs
HenrICVM SanDys
ab hostIbVs
tVeatVr.
MDCVVVVVVIIII.

In Albury church, Surrey, is the following similarly disposed memorial: —

Res Vrgent eXIsto pVLVere qIbI sepVLtI DorMIVnt.
My body pawn'd to death doth here remain,
As surety for the Soul's return again.

The first embodies the date 1634; the second, 1640.

Harbledown. M. D.

THE LANDFALL OF COLUMBUS.

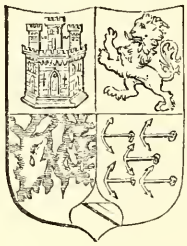
Captain Becher's recently published volume entitled —The Landfall of Columbus on his first voyage to America, is one of those works which must find its way into all libraries, whether public or private, inasmuch as based on fact and records of an indisputable character, the circumstances relative to the four voyages of this celebrated man, are here fully developed, and the spot on which Columbus first set foot in the New World, is here satisfactorily defined and established. Notwithstanding the hitherto unsuccessful efforts of the most distinguished writers and Nautical Commanders or Historians to determine or solve a question that has been deemed of the highest importance, and embarrassed by difficulties in the solution of no ordinary complicity, as neither Watling Island, the Guanahani of Columbus, nor the Crooked Island Group, his 'Fragrant Isles,' have been surveyed on the liberal scale of Long Island, off the south-west end of which he anchored, and after naming it, simply adds a passing notice in two or three words.

The circumstances in the eventful career of Columbus, whose name can never be forgotten in the annals of the world, though only the eldest son of a humble carder, born at Genoa in 1435, are subjects of the most minute enquiry, and his perseverance, undaunted amidst the greatest perplexities, is held forth for the admiration of all men, and proving Columbus to have been under all positions in himself a person of innate majesty of capacity, notwithstanding the frequent rejections of his proposals for discoveries in the West, his being deceived, taunted and treated as a fanatic, by governments whose antecedents and power ought to have rendered them more susceptible of appreciation. In 1485, we learn that Columbus purposed to proffer his services to England: Henry the Seventh was then on the throne, a monarch whose wisdom and prowess Columbus had heard highly praised, so much so indeed, as to induce him to urge the setting forth of his brother Bartholomew to obtain if possible the patronage of the king; in the meantime however having satisfied his filial piety by seeing his aged father was comfortably provided for, he quitted Genoa for Spain, where subsequently he found a more favourable reception than had been accorded to him by the different governments which he had addressed, and England missed the opportunity of adding one more to the many glories which already enrich her naval renown.

The notes of the Journal of Columbus in his first voyage across the Atlantic Ocean in 1492, are here digested in the more modern form of the Journals kept on board Government ships, by which at a glance are shewn the courses and distances run by him, and elicit the fact that on Thursday, Oct. 11, land was first seen by a seaman named Rodriga de Triana, on board the Pinta, which being a faster vessel was ahead of the Admiral's ship, the Santa Maria. At two in the morning of Friday, land was distinctly seen by the ships at about two leagues distance, and at day-break Columbus landed on an island of the Lucayos, called by the natives Guanahani, now known as Watling Island, 'the Garden of the Bahamas;' was then taken possession of in the name of Ferdinand and Isabella, and named by him in accordance with the dominant religious notions of the time, San Salvador.*

Magellan, the first of the early navigators who shewed the way into the Pacific Ocean has been more fortunate than Columbus, both with the historian and the poet. Even his ship, the Victory, which never returned to Europe, but was lost among the Molucca Islands, has been pictorially represented, and her success celebrated in song; while to realise an illustration of the ships of Columbus has been the difficult task of the antiquary, causing misconceptions and errors among men and writers of the clearest and most resplendent intellects. The arguments of Washington Irving in favour of Cat Island; and those of Baron Humboldt for Turk's Island, are by Captain Becher most successfully analysed, the several courses are traced on an accompanying map, and the vexatious point in dispute may now be considered as definitively settled.

By order dated Barcelona, May 20, 1493, Ferdinand and Isabella conferred on Columbus the dignity of bearing the armorial insignia here represented —



Divested of its official phraseology, that patent would read thus—

Don Fernando and Doña Isabel, etc., In acknowledgment and reward to you Christóbal Colon, our Admiral of the Islands and Mainland discovered by our command, and to be discovered in the Indies in the Ocean Sea; and in remembrance of the great and loyal services which you have performed for us, especially in exposing your person as you have to much risk and labour in discovering the said Islands, and to honour and promote you and your descendants and lineage in perpetuity hereafter, we have thought proper, and it is our desire, and we give you power and authority to bear on your shield of arms, besides those of your own family, a Castle and Lion over them, which we give you for arms, that is to say:

In the dexter quarter, the Castle *or* on a field *vert*. In

* Watling Island, celebrated as it is for being the real San Salvador of Columbus, obtained its later designation from a Captain George Watling, an old buccaneer or freebooter; the latter a word now in use among our friends in the United States, with a Spanish parentage, and called Filibustier, that being the nearest pronunciation of the Spaniards to Freebooter, and is so defined in the dictionaries.

the sinister quarter, a Lion *purpura*, rampant, on a field *argent*. In the dexter base quarter, some Islands *or* in waves of the sea; and in the sinister base quarter, the arms which you are accustomed to bear; which abovesaid arms shall be acknowledged as yours and those of your descendants in perpetuity hereafter.

The biography of Columbus has been most fully discussed, and many important facts established. One, not the least interesting is the definition of the initials which are found attached to Columbus's signature. Isabella having assured him that his desire to be the explorer of regions then unknown should be promoted—that the voyage should be undertaken under her auspices; that as Admiral he should be in the service of the crown, and that his son would also be provided for in his absence, appears to have created such emotions, as moved him even to tears. The certainty of the means of the achieving the fondest, most ardent wishes of his life, and the protection awarded to his family caused the expression of those sentiments, which he maintained ever after, bequeathing them as sacred heir-looms to his successors. Subdued by so much unexpected kindness from the Queen, so soon as his feeling permitted him the utterance, he is said to have exclaimed—I shall henceforth be the Servant of your Majesty! Adopting these words of Columbus as a key to his cipher, which is thus disposed —

S.
S. A. S.
X. M. Y.
Xpo Ferens
El Almirante.

and assuming they are intended to imply Spanish words, the three first lines would be read —

Servidor
Sus Altesas Sacras
Jesus Maria Ysabel

and translated mean—The servant of their Sacred Highnesses Jesus, Maria and Isabella. Thus in assuming the above cipher, Columbus seems to have really expressed what he purposed should remain in perpetuity in his family, that in gratitude for her protection he and his heirs should be the servants of her Majesty. Navarrete has printed all the letters of one size, but this is not in conformity with the custom of Columbus, to which the A. here is of a larger character. The words—Xpo Ferens, are admitted to imply—bearing the Cross; so that the whole translated would stand thus in English—

The Servant
of their Sacred Highnesses
Jesus, Mary, and Isabella,
Bearing the Cross,
The Admiral.

Columbus, soon after his return from his fourth voyage, enfeebled by age and borne down by infirmities, the result of the hardships he had undergone, more particularly in his last voyage, and affected by the loss of his patroness, the Queen Isabella, directed his efforts to the obtaining for his brother Bartholomew a reward for his services, and died May 26, 1506, aged 71. His remains were deposited in the convent of San Francisco at Valladolid. In 1513, they were transferred to the monastery of Cartujos de las Cuevas, in Seville, where were also deposited those of his son Don Diego, who died Feb. 23, 1526. In 1536, the remains of Columbus and his son Diego, were delivered for transfer to the city of Santo Domingo, in the island of Española, where they were interred by the altar, in the cathedral. In 1795, that island having been ceded to France, their ashes were again disturbed, and transferred to Cuba, their last resting place being on the right side of the altar, of the cathedral of the city of Havana.

THE BARRIECO, OR BARAECO.

The boar-shaped Estian divinity Barrieco, or Baraeco, referred to in Current Notes, p. 72, by A. M., as having been worshipped on the banks of the Duero and its tributaries, at a very early period, is of Indian origin. *Varaha*, or the Boar, was one of the ten avatars or descents of Vishnu, the second person of the Hindu Trinity, in his capacity of preserver. He took the form of a boar, the symbol of strength, to draw up and support in his tusks the whole earth, which had been sunk beneath the ocean. One of the *Calpas* or renovations of the universe is thence named *Varaha*. "Waters (alone) there were; this world originally was water; in it the lord of creation moved, having become air; he saw this (earth); and uplifted it, assuming the form of a boar; and then moulded that (earth), becoming Viswacarman, the artificer of the universe." Taittiríya Yajarvéda, quoted in *Asiatic Researches*, vol. VIII., p. 452. When the eight *sactis* or energies of the gods,—female divinities, *matris*, or mothers, exactly like their male principles, "with the same form, the same decoration, and the same vehicle,"—came to fight against the demons, as related in the *Devi Máhátmya*, *Asiatic Researches*, vol. VIII., p. 83, the energy of Hari, *Varahi*, the granter of boons, "assumed the unrivalled form of the holy boar," sitting on a buffalo. This redoubtable goddess it seems to have been who was known under the name of *Frea* or *Fricco*, "mother of the gods," to the tribes inhabiting the countries adjoining the Baltic, (Mallet, *Introd. à l'Histoire de Dannemarck*, pp. 56, et seqq.) and the emblem of whose worship, *insigne superstitionis*, was the image of a wild boar. Eccardus, *De Rebus Franciae Orientalis*, tom. I. p. 409, quoted by Brotier, in his notes to Tacitus, says many vestiges of this superstition still remain in Sweden. The country people, he observes, at that season of the year (February) when the festival of Frea was formerly held, bake loaves shaped like a wild boar, which they put to various superstitious uses. I need scarcely add that Frea or Friga is identified by mythologists with the Greek *Aphrodité* and the Roman *Venus*, and that one of the days of the week takes its name from her.

The Sanscrit term *varaha*, a boar, is evidently the Latin *verres*, the Italian *verro*, the French *verrat*, the

Dutch *varken*, as well as the Spanish *barraco* or *verraco*, and Exmoor *baarge*. Its root is most likely identical with that of the Latin *aper* and German *eber*, which, however, Schœbel, *Analogies Constitutives de la Langue Allemande*, p. 22; analyses into *aa-bär*=the water or marsh beast, defining it "animal fort qui aime le séjour des marécages." *Bär* he derives from the Sanscrit *arks*, which he considers as a secondary form of *arh* strong (Teutonic *urh*, Greek *ari*, *ēr*), and the etymon of the Greek *arktos* and Latin *ursus*. Cognates are the Sanscrit *rks'a*, Zingari or Gypsy *ritsch*, and Suomi or Finnish *karhu*, a bear. From *bär* come the Saxon *bar*, Cornish *bora*, Dutch *beer*, Swedish *borr*, and English *boar*. The root *ark*, with the initial augment *t*, seems to be the Irish and Gaelic *torc* and Welsh *twrch*. The Greek *kapros* has a similar affinity with *aper*. Our *brawn* comes from *aprugnus*, an adnoun formed from *aper*. The Shemitic and Sclavonian tongues, so far as I have been able to trace them, contain no corresponding terms from the same roots; but it is remarkable that the Hebrew *khazir*, Syriac *khezíro*, and Arabic *khenzer*, come from a root *khazär*, which signifies to transfix, pierce, perforate, *bore*, (Greek *peir-*, Latin *for-*, German *bohr-*, Irish *bear*, etc.) I may likewise mention that the Greek *kapros* denotes not only the male of the wild hog, but the organ of generation or *phallos*, which was used in the rites of Bacchus or Priapus as an emblem of fecundity, like the Hindu *lingam*.

South Shields, Sept. 10. WILLIAM BROCKIE.

The lines which eighteen centuries since, were addressed to a fair Stoic:

To the Immutable Fair one.
Si, nisi quæ forma poterit te digna videri
Nulla futura tua est; nulla futura tua est.

have been deemed inimitable, and for delicacy and point have no resemblance in any other language. The following are among the many attempts which have been made as a Translation.

If, to no charms, thou wilt thy heart resign,
But such as merit, such as equal thine;
By none, alas! by none, thou wilt be moved:
Then thou alone, must by thyself be loved.

If none, but equal charms, thy heart can bind;
Then, to thyself alone, must thou be kind.

If but to one, form'd equally divine,
None you'll incline to, you'll to none incline.

If, saue whose charms with equal splendour shine,
None euer thine can be; none euer can be thine.

Harbledown. M. D.

MORRIS.—Can any Correspondent of Current Notes inform me, whether it is intended to publish the work entitled, Celtic Remains; left in Manuscript by the late distinguished Welsh antiquary, Lewis Morris, Esq.; and if so, by whose care it will be transmitted through the press?

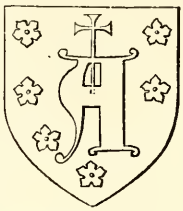
Brecon, September 18. F. S. A.

EARLY MERCHANTS' MARKS.

The following examples of Merchant's marks occur on sepulchral memorials in the churches of St. Margaret and St. Nicholas, Lynn.

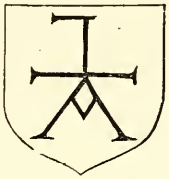
Mackerell in his History of Lynn has noticed these marks, but so incorrectly, and so wretchedly engraved, that I think it would be desirable to perpetuate them in Current Notes.

On the brass of Adam de Walsokne in St. Margaret's church, is the following inscription, incorrectly printed in Mackerell's Collections.



Hic Jacet Adam de Walsokne quondam Burgens Lenn qui obiit quinto die mensis Junii Anno Dni Millesimo Trigentesimo quadragesimo nono . . . . . Margareta uxor ejus in Cleye nata quorum anime per Dei misericordiam in pace requiescant. Amen.

In the same church, is the brass of John Atkin, thus inscribed —



Hic jacet corpus Johannis Atkin, Aldermani, Viri gravissimi, præhonesti, Reiq: hujus Burgi publicæ admodum studiosi, cujus Maioratum A° R. Rs. Jacobi 5° et 13° honorifice ac pie gessit. E Johanna uxore ejus unica duodecim amoris sui pignora suscitavit quorum in vivis tantum modo sunt novem Gulielmus natu-primus; Thomas, Johannes, Setheus, Anna, Clementia, Johanna, Frideswitha, et Margeria. Vixit annos 68 feliciter, 15 die Septembris A°. Dni. 1617. Chrō obdormivit.

The Monogram evidently formed of three letters doubtless implied John Atkin, Lynn.

In the chancel of St. Nicholas' church, incised on a sepulchral slab, with this inscription —

Thomas Toll, Esq.
and Alies his wife rest heer,
Til Christ apeare.

Hee / She departed ye 29 / 9 October, 16 53. / 52.

On referring to Mackerell, on the last plate, at p. 269, the monogram adopted by Thomas Toll, which ought to consist of a combination of the three letters of his name, is thus unmeaningly delineated.

Such errors in engraving make the prints in these

devices, which however are few and far between, in many of our County Histories valueless, as more care is required in drawing these marks than even in heraldic insignia. These errors in engraving and printing are the more to be regretted, since out of some twenty or thirty examples noticed by Mackerell, I could in my recent search find only the three here described.

Lee Road, Blackheath. J. J. HOWARD.

CHARTER OAK AT HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT.

On the 21st of last month, August, during a strong gale of wind, the far famed Charter Oak which stood near the City of Hartford, was blown down and fell with a tremendous crash, leaving about six feet of its stem remaining. It must have been a very old tree when Columbus in 1492, discovered the New World.

The appellation of Charter Oak has in more instances than the present, occasioned a requirement of some elucidation, and at no period more than now, could that explanation be more pertinently rendered.

Soon after the restoration of royalty in England, in 1660, the Connecticut colony sent the son of Governor Winthrop of Massachusetts, to England, with a humble and respectful petition to king Charles the Second, in which they solicited a charter under the royal signature. Mr. Winthrop being possessed of a valuable ring that had been presented by king Charles the First, to his grandfather, presented it on his audience to the king, and by this timely incident is supposed to have considerably interested the monarch in his favour. The Charter which passed under the Great Seal, April 20, 1662, established over the colony a form of government of the most liberal tendency, granting the most ample privileges, and confirming the fundamental law of Connecticut for one hundred and fifty-eight years, in fact till the year 1818.

Under James the Second, Connecticut was apparently doomed to suffer from the injustice and violence of the last of the male sovereigns of the Stuart race. Massachusetts had been deprived of her Charter, and Rhode Island had also been induced to surrender, when in July, 1685, a writ of *quo warranto* was issued against the governor and company of Connecticut. Vane strongly advised the colonial government to comply with the requisition, and surrender the Charter, but it was determined otherwise, neither to appear to defend it, nor voluntarily to surrender it, notwithstanding the repeated applications of Sir Edmund Andros, who had the appointment of Governor of the New England Colonies.

In October, 1687, the Assembly met as usual, and the government according to the Charter continued till the end of the month, when on the last day, Sir Edmund with his suite, and more than sixty regular troops came to Hartford, where the assembly were sitting, demanded the Charter, and declared the government under it to be dissolved.

Even in this emergency, the Assembly were in no way disposed to any resolution involving the surrender of their Charter, or in respect to any motion to produce it. Governor Treat urged the great expense and hardships of the Colonists in planting the country; the blood and treasure they had expended in defending it against both savages and foreigners, and further the dangers and vicissitudes to which he had himself been exposed, therefore to surrender the patent and privileges so dearly bought and so long enjoyed, was as he stated like to giving up his life. The subject was debated and held in suspense until the evening, by which time great numbers of the people were assembled, and among them many sufficiently bold and determined to any enterprise that might be deemed expedient, or necessity require. The Charter was at length brought in and laid upon the table, where the assembly were sitting, but the lights were in an instant extinguished, and Captain Wadsworth of Hartford, in the surprise thus created, silently secured and carried off the patent, which he secreted in a large hollow tree fronting the house of the Hon. Samuel Wyllys, then one of the magistrates of the colony. Those present in the Assembly continued orderly and peaceable; the candles were officiously relighted, but the Charter was gone, nor could any discovery be made either of it, or of the person by whom it had been removed.

Though foiled in the attempt to obtain possession of the Charter, Sir Edmund did not hesitate to immediately assume the reins of government,* which as the minion of a wretched monarch he administered with as much oppression in this, as in the other Colonies, till on the arrival at Boston, of the declaration of the Prince of Orange, Andros was deposed and imprisoned; their former Governor was re-elected, and after an interruption of little more than a year and a half, the people of Connecticut resumed the previous form of government that had been guaranteed to them by the Charter.

The day after the tree had been blown down, the City band performed for two hours solemn music over its prostrate trunk, and at sunset, the bells tolled to express the general regret at the event.

CIVILITY ON SIGN-BOARDS.—I once saw in Charleville, in the county of Cork, a sign which set forth, that the proprietor of the concern was licensed to sell drink with civil usage, the latter commodity at Varese in Italy, is expressed by *cortesia*, and obtains precedence of the grape—*Cortesia con buon vino.* G. D.

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* The records of the Colony state the fact in these words —At a general court at Hartford, Oct. 31, 1687, his excellency Sir Edmund Andros, Knight, and Captain-General and Governor of his Majesty's territories and dominions in New England, by order from his Majesty, James II., King of England, Scotland, France and Ireland, the 31st of October, 1687, took into his hands the government of the Colony of Connecticut, it being by his Majesty, annexed to Massachusetts and other Colonies under his Excellency's government. Finis.

Monkey Money.—I have recently met with the phrase 'Monkey's money,' in reference to one man's grinning at another who demanded a sum owing. May I ask, whence does this originate, or has it an allusion only to the ordinary vague chatter of the animal?

Hastings, Sep. 9. E. S.

The French have a proverb 'To pay in Monkey's coin,' *i. e.* to laugh at a man instead of paying him, which is said to be thus derived. The tariff of St. Lewis the Ninth, who reigned in France from 1226 to 1270; for regulating the duties upon articles and produce brought by the gate of the Little Châtelet into Paris, among other items ordained, that whoever brought a monkey into the City for sale, should pay four deniers; but if the monkey pertained to a Merry-Andrew, the owner by causing his monkey to dance and disport before the collector of the dues, was not only exempt from paying any duty for the said monkey, but passed freely with ought else he might have with him.

The same code of dues directed that Jugglers, provided they sang a couplet of a ballad before the toll-gatherer, were to pass exempt from all imposts.

HORACE MISCONSTRUED.

M. De Beauchamps in his Recherches sur les Theatres de France, notices the performance of Voltaire's first drama, Œdipus, which was represented for the first time, on Friday, Nov. 18, 1718. He observes much has been said for and against this drama, which had a prodigious success, and appends a numerous list of printed critical pamphlets which it occasioned; he however seems not to have been aware of the successful ruse that was played off against it, on the first night of its representation. Œdipus was performed on the opening night of the season, the Theatre during the recess had been newly decorated, and on the proscenium, above the curtain, was placed as a motto, the initials —

O. T. P. Q. M. V. D.

These letters created a general interest, and many were the solutions as fitted the comprehensions of the audients, till the witty yet sarcastic Piron, whispered to a few ladies, they were intended to designate —

Œdipe Tragédie pitoyable que Monsieur Voltaire donne.

This was quite sufficient, the slanderous definition flew like lightning, and was heedlessly accepted as the true meaning, the incessant uproar that followed precluded the actors from being heard, and the drama was withdrawn as altogether unsuccessful. During the criticism which it occasioned, the fact of this perversion of the luckless motto transpired, and the real meaning of these mysterious initials being authoritatively made known as implying —

Omne tulit punctum qui miscuit utile dulci;

the drama was again played, the unlucky perversion of the motto was forgotten, and the run followed for forty-five successive nights. The line is from Horace.

THE BEING PUT TO ONE'S SHIFTS.

Gabriel Naudé, Physician to Louis XIII., observes, the ancients in writing made use of waxen tables, called Pugillares; or leaves made of barks of trees: I have seen specimens of each in Italy. They did not make use of paper, for they had no linen; they knew hemp as an herb, but applied it not to this purpose. In the time of Charles VII., of France, 1422-60, linen made of hemp was so scarce that his Queen had but two shifts of that material, and Rabelais, at the end of his third book, mentions hemp as a newly discovered plant, under the term Pentaguellion, which had not been in use above a century.

DERIVATION OF THE TERM, FLINT GLASS?

The words, Flint glass, as descriptive of our most pellucid glass has long been to me a doubtful matter, whether it was so called from the material of which it was manufactured? but on looking over the Proceedings of the British Archæological Association, at Chester in 1849, I find the Rev. T. B. Ll. Browne, the Vicar of Flint, in a paper read before the Association, at Flint, thus alludes to the enquiry —

Flint was very early the seat of considerable metallurgical operations, rendered evident from the fact of numerous Roman and other coins being found at places, the British names of which are indicative of such operations having been carried on there. With respect to the name of Flint, Pennant states he was unable to "assign any derivation of the word, as our country is totally destitute of the fossil usually so called;" in this however, the celebrated Tourist and Antiquary was mistaken, that mineral technically termed *Chert*, being found in great abundance, particularly in many of the lead mines.

The term Flint glass it is highly probable was derived from the fact of its being first manufactured at Flint. Where the present Town-hall stands was formerly glass-works, and a few years since while sinking the foundation of the gateway, at Mr. Haywood's, great quantities of fragments of melting pots and glass were found; and as the mineral flint is a compound part of all kinds of glass, there is no reason to suppose that this term should be applied solely as indicative of that description which is manufactured by the aid of lead, whilst on the other hand, it is highly probable, that the first locality for that part of the glass manufacture should be at a spot where the lead required for its formation could be obtained in abundance, particularly as in addition to the raw materials, the vicinity of Flint has abounded in ancient times with fuel, whether that was derived from forests or mines.

I must confess I am still sceptical, and shall be greatly obliged to any correspondent of Current Notes, who will contribute any notices in reference to the derivation of the term, Flint glass. S. J. H.

LIBERTY SUPPRESSED IN FRANCE.

On the first of October next, all the one and two sous pieces of the copper coinage of France, bearing the head of Liberty, cease to have any currency in monetary payments. The copper coins of one and two liards, and of one centime, bearing the head of Liberty, by a decree of Napoleon III., which was published in the *Moniteur*, enacted these minor symbols of Revolutionary periods to be out of circulation on the first of July last.

WILLIS'S CURRENT NOTES.

No. LXX.] "Takes note of what is done—
By note, to give and to receive."—SHAKESPEARE. [OCTOBER, 1856.

GRAVE OF ROB ROY.

Balquhidder, the residence and the scene of many of the exploits of Rob Roy MacGregor, the hero of Sir Walter Scott's highly popular romance of that name; and also the place of his burial, is a Highland parish in the south-west of Perthshire, distinguished by its beautiful lakes and wild scenery. The kirktown or hamlet is about twelve miles from the well known village of Callander, and to the west of the kirk are 'the Braes of Balquhidder,' commemorated in Scottish song by the unfortunate Tannahill.

The widely spread traditions of Rob Roy have eternised in popular recognition the parish of Balquhidder, but it would be idle to adduce any detailed notice of that extraordinary individual, his family history and exploits having been so ably recorded by Sir Walter Scott, in the introduction to his celebrated romance. The passing mention will, therefore, be sufficient, that within his own house, at Balquhidder, he died about 1738, an old man, retaining to the last the same strange characteristics which he had exhibited through a long and adventurous life. His character, it is almost needless to add, had much of the same impetuosity and self-daring which marked the personal conduct and disposition of the English Robert, Earl of Huntingdon, better known as Robin Hood, and of which the concluding stanza of Wordsworth's admirable poem, written on visiting Rob Roy's grave at Balquhidder, renders with no little force a just idea—

> And thus among these rocks he lived,
> Through summer's heat and winter's snow;
> The eagle, he was lord above,
> And Rob was lord below.

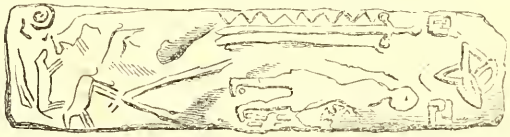
On the southern slope of a mountain, with a broadly expanded view, is situated the old parish kirk and burial ground of Balquhidder. The kirk bears the initials of MacGregor, Knight of Glencarnock, and his lady, with the date 1631; but recently, a new fabric, in the old English style of architecture, having been built outside of the burial ground, the former kirk has been unroofed, and thus rendered a picturesque ruin. The burial-place of the MacGregors is at the east end of the old kirk, in that part of the kirk which was called *capbail big*, *i.e.*, the small chapel or chancel. There are three gravestones pertaining to the family, all are lying closely together, and the most northerly, erected to the memory of Rob Roy's eldest son, Coll or Colin, is raised upon four rude pillars, and bearing the arms of the MacGregors, with these words—

Here lies interred the corps of COLIN MCGREGOR, who died in the year 1735; aged 31 years.

That futurity might know by whom this was raised, it was further inscribed—This stone was erected by Lieutenant John Gregorson, 1770.

The stone, on the south side, no inscription, but having a sword as here represented rudely incised *in pale*—

is commonly, but erroneously, believed to cover the grave of Rob Roy; on the contrary, as the writer has been informed by several intelligent and trustworthy residenters in Balquhidder, this stone denotes the last deposit of Rob's wife Helen, a daughter of Campbell of Glenfalloch, and of one of his sons; while the real resting place of 'the bold outlaw' is below the third or centre stone elaborately ensculpt; by far the most interesting of these memorials of the dead, and like the preceding, is now engraved for the first time.



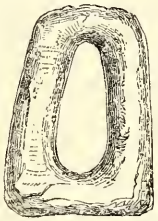
These monumental stones are all of rough native granite, and from the great similarity of some of the emblems upon that which covers the grave of Rob Roy, with those found upon several of the ancient sculptured stones of Scotland, of which a large collection has recently been published by the Spalding Club, under the editorial care of their respected secretary, John Stuart, Esq., advocate, there is reason not only to suppose, but to believe, that ages before the name of MacGregor was known in the braes of Balquhidder, this monumental slab denoted the grave of some person locally distinguished, but whose name, with any other memorial or particulars have long since been shrouded in oblivion.

The rudely incised figures upon this stone, which is about six feet long by sixteen inches wide, may be conjectured to indicate the predilections or pursuits of the person it was purposed in the olden time to commemorate. The cross-patent near the breast of the grotesquely represented human figure, or possibly cross-patée, for it is difficult to define which of the kinds it purports; or whether it is intended to represent either, being after all, probably, an emblem of Christianity, may be looked

upon as indicative of the faith of the deceased; the dogs, emblematical of his ardour or attachment to the sports of the chace; and the sword, rudely carved and ill proportioned to the rest of the figures, may emblematise his individual prowess.

The last described stone, like that having simply the sword, are both partially mutilated, owing to the penchant which many unreflective tourists have to carry off some fragment of known relics of the past. The practice is highly reprehensible, and cannot be too much condemned.

Besides these interesting monuments of the MacGregors, there is in the burial ground an oddly shaped stone, resembling in form and size a horse's collar. Traditionally it is said to have been an instrument of punishment in the days of superstitious requirements, and that it was formerly placed on the shoulders of the delinquent, whose head protruded through it. The aperture is sufficiently large enough for that purpose, but as the writer has never before seen or heard of a similar object, it is here figured, in the hope that some correspondent of Current Notes may advance some particulars respecting its use.



Brechin. A. J.

BRITISH CHURCH NOT SUBJECT TO ROME.

The following memorials have been collected, to form an appendix to Bishop Godwyn's Catalogue of the Prelates of England and Wales, which latter country stops short at p. 430, with those of Llandaff; the reverend author being precluded by death from adding those of Bangor or St. Asaph, as he had purposed.

Bangor, a city of Caernarvonshire, in North Wales, is situated in a valley, within a short distance of the charming and much-frequented bay of Beaumaris. It is enclosed on the south side with a very steep mountain, and, comparatively speaking, by a little hill on the north. Camden derives its name *à choro pulchro*, from a beautiful quire; or, as others suppose, *quasi locus chori*, the place of a quire.

The cathedral is in the form of a cross: the eastern part is embattled, and at the west end is a low massive square tower, surmounted by four pinnacles. This tower and the nave, some parts of the transepts, and most of the windows of the choir are perpendicular. The south aisle of the nave is decorated, and there are some buttresses and other portions of early English character. The north aisle to the choir is divided, and used as a chapter house and vestry. The font, of an octagonal and perpendicular character, is very handsome.

Bishop Godwyn has given an interesting account of the foundation of episcopacy, wherein he states that one of the earliest kings was baptized, and following his example, many of his people in all parts of his dominions; and that he caused the temples of his false gods to be dedicated to the service of the True God.

In place of their priests, he appointed preachers of the Gospel, and for their flamines, he created bishops to the number of twenty-eight; and of these, three were instituted archbishops—one at London, whose province was the southern part of England; a second, at Caerlegion upon Uske, his province was Wales; and the third at York, unto whose jurisdiction the bishops of Scotland and North England were subject.

The Gospel under such influence prospered greatly, and even when a terrible persecution of the Church, by the Saxons, prevailed in almost every other part of the land, it found in Wales many open and undaunted professors, who never allowed the light thereof to be utterly extinguished. There was, in fact, no public authorisation of the Christian religion anywhere but in Wales.

That a monastery was founded at a very early period in Bangor is evident, from the recorded notice of the spirited reply of the monks thereof to Augustine, on his coming to England, long after the supposed establishment of that monastery; when, on his landing in Kent, King Ethelbert bestowed on him the royal city of Canterbury, as an episcopal see, and the King's palace for a cathedral church, to be erected unto Christ. Pope Gregory the Great having, in 601, honoured Augustine with the pall, and thereby appointed him Metropolitan of Britain, he summoned a council in the borders of Worcestershire, that he might be somewhat nigher to the British clergy and bishops, in Wales, and warned them to appear. Augustine in that assembly demanded from them obedience to the Bishop of Rome, and the reception of the Roman ceremonies into the service of the British Church.

This innovation the Britons rejected, and after a long disputation on both sides, another session or synod was agreed on, at which a greater number of the British clergy were present, and amongst them seven bishops.

The monastery of Bangor contained at this time, it is said, so great a number of monks, that when the whole monastery was constituted into seven parts with their rulers, no part contained fewer than three hundred men, all of whom obtained their maintenance by the labour of their hands.

To the demand made by Augustine of submission to the dominance of the Bishop of Rome, the abbot, in the name of his Church, made this memorable reply:—

Be it known and without doubt unto you, that We, all and every one of us are obedient and subject to the Church of God, and to the Pope of Rome, and to every godly Christian, to love every one in his degree in perfect charity, and to help every one of them, by word and deed, to be the children of God: other obedience than this I do not know due to him, whom you name to be Pope; nor to be Father of Fathers; to be claimed and to be demanded; and this obedience we are ready to give, and to render to him, and to every Christian continually. Besides, We are under the government of the Bishop of Caerleon upon Uske, who is to oversee under

God, and rule over us, to cause us to keep the way spiritually.

This abbot was no other, as appears by a Norman manuscript yet extant, than the renowned Dinoth; and it is clear, not only from this reply to Augustine, but also, from what is related by the Venerable Bede, that the British Church acknowledged no supremacy in the Roman bishop, or any other foreign patriarch. Neither had it any communication with the Roman Church, but was subject, as from the days of Eleutherius, to a metropolitan of its own.

The consequence of this resistance to the mandate of Augustine was a most horrible slaughter of the monks of this celebrated monastery, the particulars of which are related in Sammes' Britannia, p. 513.

Historians affirm that the first establishment of the Christian faith in this country was first promulgated here about 181 years after the birth of Christ, and the reason stated for its earlier establishment in Britain than in other nations, arose from the devotion, piety, and learning of the Druidical order, who were eminent throughout the island, who decided and judged not only in spiritual, but in civil affairs, and were resorted to as oracles for their profound judgment and skill in questions of the highest concern. Many of their tenets—that of the immortality of the soul, especially, constituted points of ready admission to that faith, which, besides the great sanctity and holiness it implied, it taught rewards of virtue and punishments of vice upon surer grounds than the heathens had ever inculcated—that there was an Almighty Power which strictly examined the actions of all mankind.

Kent, Oct. 13. ECLECTICUS.

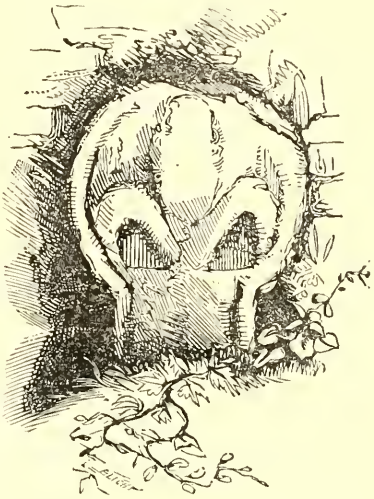
THE PRIOR'S CROSS, 'BY HOOK AND CROOK.'

Hals in his Parochial History of Cornwall, in reference to the Peverells of Park, in his account of the parish of Egloshoyle, observes—

Those Peverells are especially memorable here by two crosses of moorstone in the highway set up by them, still extant (circa 1700), and called Peverell's crosses.

Not far from them is another moorstone cross, near Mount Charles, called the Prior's Cross, whereon is cut the figure of a hook and crook, in memory of that privilege and freedom granted by him to the poor of Bodmin, for gathering for fireboote and houseboote, such boughs and branches of oak trees in his contiguous wood of Dunmear as they could reach to, or come at with a hook and crook without further damage to the trees thereof. From whence arose the Cornish proverb concerning filching, purloining, or taking another person's goods overmuch, or indirectly, beyond what is allowed them—'they will have it by hook or by crook.'

Some short time since, while purposely searching for these monuments, I discovered not far from Mount Charles, its original situation, what I believe to be the Prior's Cross, built into a hedge, near the little inn at Washaway. As it is supposed to be unique, an account of it may well be inserted in Current Notes, especially as Mr. Blight, whose recent highly and truthfully illustrated work on the crosses of West Cornwall is soon to be followed by a similar volume on those of the Eastern portion of the county, has kindly offered to illustrate it by a characteristic sketch.



The stone, the dimensions of which are uncertain from its being partially sunk in the ground, is of the common round-headed form, but in place of the cross which usually occupies the disk, the exposed side shews a *fleur-de-lis sans pied* carved in relief. That Hals's explanation of the figure, probably derived from the tradition of the neighbourhood, is incorrect, seems more than likely from the very distant resemblance which the lateral leaflets of the device bear to the woodcutter's implements mentioned, as also from the improbability that the reverent spirit of the age would have permitted such an use of a form of pillar consecrated to a loftier purpose. There would appear to be more truth in the suggestion that the *fleur-de-lis* is commemorative of the Virgin. Can your readers furnish further instances of the sacred use of the symbol?

The derivation of the common proverb which the historian gives is, at least, as good as any that antiquarians have offered, which is, however, saying but little for its value. Your legal readers could, I dare say, supply examples to prove that it is a phrase frequent in deeds conveying grants of common of estovers. Several instances of its use are to be found in connection with the grant that this stone was popularly supposed to refer to, and the production of them here will be of wider interest in illustrating the social insecurity of a not very distant age. My information is derived from the Rev. John Wallis's useful and interesting Bodmin Register.

A right of housebote and fireboote, as well as common of pasturage in the Dunmeer wood, was granted to the poor of Bodmin by one of the earlier priors, and this

right, so liable to abuse, was, at a later date, a source of quarrel between the prior and the people of the town. A testimonial of the town against the prior, bearing date 1525, states, "that the wood, called Dynmure wood, was ever open and common for all burgesses and inhabitants of Bodmyn till now of late, as well for all manner kind of their beasts to common therein, as to have their burden wood, to bear and carry away upon their backs, of lop, crop, hook, crook, and bagwood, without contradiction, let or disturbance of any manner persons; always reserving and saving to the Prior of Bodmyn and his successors the stems of the trees for their fuel and building," and it goes on to complain that the bailiffs whose duty it was to see that matters should be "indifferently ordered according to good right and conscience," were accustomed, for rewards and money given, to permit certain burgesses and others to carry away on horses the burthen wood to the prejudice of both the Prior and the commonalty. The dispute from hard words came to blows, as is detailed in a petition from the town to Henry VIII., within the period 1529 39, and that document represented that "whereas the said inhabitants have used to have common pasture, with all manner of beasts, and common fuel, in a wood called Dynmure wood, a mile from the said town, that is to say, with hook and crook, to lop and crop and to carry away upon their backs and none other ways," the Prior had caused the said wood to be inclosed, the gates to be locked, and by his bailiffs had beaten, and cruelly obstructed the poor people while attempting to exercise their right of common; and that "the same now Prior hath now of late sold the said wood and made coal there, pretending it to be his several wood, not having regard to the title of common that the said inhabitants have within the said wood." The townspeople may possibly have exceeded their privileges, but they stoutly resented this infringement of their rights, and pulled down a hedge that "they might *daysler* use the said ways and common." The Prior, among whose virtues forbearance could not be numbered, assumed an attitude of vengeance, and commanded the friends and servants of the manor of Bodmin to repair to the priory with such weapons as they had. "By this means he gathered unto the said priory by estimation to the number of a hundred persons and above, and charged five cart load of ordnance with pellets to shoot into the town, and to destroy the town, and so shot into the town twenty pellets or thereabouts, which unlawful purpose the same Prior had maliciously fulfilled to his power, if by the council and advice of good men he had not been stayed; by reason of which dealings and malicious purpose," saith the petition, "the said poor commons standeth greatly in dread of the said Prior, and were thereby greatly inquieted."

This right of common was soon after renounced in consideration of a grant of a leet and frank pledge, for ninety-nine years, at the annual rent of four pounds (the term, at its close, to be renewed for ninety-nine years more), with a licence to build a market house in the town, and to hold a fair or mart at the Berry.

Bodmin. THOMAS Q. COUCH.

EARLY MERCHANTS' MARKS.

Appended to a grant from Rowland Hawarde, William Allen and Lyonel Duckett, Knights, Aldermen of London; to Edward Osborne,* Woolston Dixie, George Barne, Thomas Starkey, Richard Martin, and William Rowe, of four acres of land in 'Fynsburie field juxta Bonhill,' dated March 22, 1583; are the seals and signatures of the grantees. On the seal of Sir Rowland Haywarde are the following armorial bearings—1 and 6. A lion rampant guardant crowned. 2. Two pellets engrailed. 3. On a saltire engrailed, five fleurs-de-lis. 4. A lion rampant guardant in chief, two mullets. 5. Per fess indented, an eagle displayed.

The seal of Sir William Allyn, as the name is so subscribed, Lord Mayor of London, 1571, has his merchant's mark, as here shewn:

In Heylin's Help to English History, edit. 1773, p. 528, the following arms are assigned to Allen —

Party per pale sable and or, on a fess engrailed, counterchanged, three Talbots passant, gules and of the second.

On Sir Lyonel Duckett's seal are the arms, quarterly —1. A saltire charged with a mullet. 2. Three cushions tasselled. 3. A lion rampant. In Heylin's Help to English History, edit. 1773, p. 528, it is said the lion rampant, is within a bordure engrailed, but it is not so on the seal. 4. A saltire between twelve crosses crosslet.

Sir Wolstan Dixie was Lord Mayor in 1585, when the Inauguration Pageant was written by George Peele. Of this there is but one printed copy known, it is among the many bibliographical rarities deposited in the Corporation Library, Guildhall. A friend to his country and to mankind, Sir Wolstan Dixie deserves to be held in perpetual remembrance for his exemplary character as a magistrate, and for his extensive charities.

Sir George Barne, Lord Mayor in 1586, was the first Merchant Adventurer to Barbary, Russia and Genoa.

The deed is among the records of the Corporation of London.

Lee Road, Blackheath. J. J. H.

* Sir Edward Osborne, the ancestor from whom are descended the ducal family of Leeds. He was apprenticed to Sir William Hewet, of the Clothworker's Company, Lord Mayor in 1559, one of the most considerable merchants in London, and possessed of an estate of six thousand pounds per annum. Sir William's residence was on London bridge, and his only child Anne having, by the negligence of her nurse, fallen into the Thames from the window of the house upon the bridge, his apprentice Osborne on the instant leaped into the river, and having rescued her with much difficulty and danger, was in after time rewarded with her hand and fortune. As that was ample, he appears to have early relinquished mercantile affairs, although he served Lord Mayor in 1582, the year previous to this grant, and was elected the representative in Parliament for the City of London in 1585.

NUNBURNHOLME.—In the autumn of 1855, a parcel of Roman third brass coins was found at Nunburnholme, near Pocklington; they are now in the possession of Lord Londesborough, the lord of the manor, and as the result of their examination may afford some data for the comparative rarity of certain Emperors, the numbers of each are here given. The number rendered was 3236. A few of Tacitus and Probus were also stated to have been among them, but are not here particularised:—

Valerianus, A.D. 254	3
Gallienus, A.D. 253-268	318
Salonina	24
Victorinus, A.D. 265-267 . .	412
Marius, A.D. 267	4
Tetricus, senior, A.D. 267-272 . .	1270
Tetricus, the younger . . .	448
Barbarous imitations, chiefly of the Tetrici period	415
Claudius Gothicus, A.D. 268-270 .	326
Quintillus, A.D. 270 . . .	13
Aurelianus, A.D. 270-275 . .	3

DUCHESS DALTON.—Lately perusing some old family papers, a century or later, I find a notice of the Duchess Dalton, or D'Alton, who is stated to have died 'very old.' My curiosity was excited, but after referring to most of the family histories, have failed wholly in discovering any clue as to whom she was? Can any of the many deeply-read contributors to Current Notes kindly afford me a helping hand?

Cheshunt, Oct. 10. N. V.

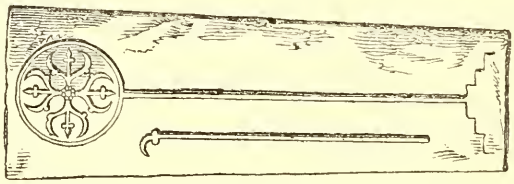
Alice Wise, who died at York, Feb. 20, 1751, aged 108, was commonly known by the appellation of 'Duchess Dalton,' but why does not appear. Her desire was to have as many persons invited to her funeral as she was years old, and that number accordingly formed the cortege of her corpse to the grave.—Ed.

DR. HALL.—The Duke of Rutland and other distinguished persons, desirous of presenting to Dr. Spencer T. Hall, author of 'The Peak and the Plain,' and other works, some appropriate memorial of the esteem and friendship with which they estimate his public usefulness, are liberally aiding a subscription in Derby towards the purchase of a complete set of Models, Diagrams and Apparatus for illustrating, educationally, Lectures on Physiology and the Laws of Health. Robert Pegg, Esq., Mayor of Derby, is the treasurer; and Mr. Llewellyn Jewitt, F.S.A., proprietor of the Derby Telegraph, officiates as honorary secretary. Many distinguished names appear in the list of the committee, and we unequivocally commend their exertions to the consideration of kindly disposed individuals.

BANGOR EPISCOPAL MONUMENTS.

The Rev. Charles Bontell, in his Christian Monuments in England and Wales, p. 69, figures the monumental slab of Griffith ap Jorworth, a benefactor to Bangor Friery, now built into the wall of the grammar school, at that city, which, as he observes, is a memorial no less beautiful than interesting. It bears a cross of most elegant design, which has on the dexter side of its stem, a sword,* and on the sinister side, a Latin legend in two lines + HIC : IACET GRVFVD : IORWERTH : VAP :, cut in relief in sunk labels. Below the woodcut it is described as the coffin slab of Griffith ap Jorworth, Bangor, c. A D. 1320; but Griffith or Griffin ap Yerward was consecrated bishop of Bangor, March 26, 1307, and died in 1309. His successor, Anian Seys, was consecrated Nov. 9, 1309, and died Jan. 26, 1327. Heylin and Beatson place Lewis I., as the successor of bishop Griffith in 1320, which date the Rev. C. Bontell appears to have adopted; but Le Neve omits this Lewis; whilst on the other hand, Heylin and Beatson are silent as to Bishop Seys.

In 1787 was discovered at Bangor another coffin lid, apparently unknown to Rev C. Bontell, bearing a cross flory, and on the dexter side a bishop's crook or staff, with between the stem of the cross and the crook the inscription—HIC ⁝ IACET ⁝ IHGER ⁝ IOH'S DE ⁝ LAHNAJES +, or more fully, Hic jacet Magister Johannes de Lahnajestyn.



Lhanjestyn is a rectory in Caernarvonshire, in the diocese of Bangor, with a population of about fifteen hundred persons. Our correspondent, ECLECTICUS, seems inclined to suppose this inscription to refer either to Johannes Gilbert, who was appointed bishop of Bangor, Nov. 16, 1372, or to Johannes Clovensis; about both of whom there seems some doubt John Gilbert was translated to Hereford, Sept. 12, 1375, moved to St. David's, May 6, 1389,† and died Lord Treasurer, July 28, 1397.

Heylin and Beatson designate Jo. Clovensis suffragan to the Archbishop of Cashell, the successor of Bishop Gilbert, and states that Bishop Swaffham followed him in 1383. Le Neve, however, registers Gilbert's successor at Bangor, John Swaffham, bishop of Clogher, in Ireland, from whence he was translated to this see, Oct. 28, 1376.

Can any correspondent supply any facts respecting this John of Llanjestyn? who it would seem was a prelate of some distinction.

* The sword would seem to militate against the fact of its being the bishop's memorial; another point of difficulty is the assertion by Malkin, in his South Wales, 1804, 4to. p. 462—On the south side of St. David's cathedral, near the throne, lies bishop Jorwerth in his robes, with his mitre and staff.

† In Duncombe's Hereford, the date is July 12, 1389.

AMCOTTS GRANT, TEMP. EDWARD THE SIXTH.

The following grant of arms to Alexander Amcotts of Astrop, in Lincolnshire, in 1549; the original being in my possession, is worthy of note, as it specifies not only the achievements of the family, but also their quarterings, a circumstance rarely observed in grants of so early a date. The parchment, on three sides has an illuminated border, and the initial letter T richly gilded, has within it, the emblazoned portrait of Garter, habited in the tabard and crown of his office; standing upon a green mound, and his arms extended.

The grant, it will be observed, is dated in October, 1549; but Sir Christopher Barker died in January in that year, and Sir Gilbert Dethick was appointed Garter in April, 1549. The arms appear to have been granted by Barker, but the document was not drawn or issued as authority until after his decease.

Packwood, Warwickshire. J. FETHERSTON.

To all and singular parsons these present letters hyrenge or seeinge, Syr CHRISTOFER BARKER, Knight, als̄ Garter Principall Kinge of armes of Englesshemen, Sendethe due and and humble recummendacion and greatinge. Equitee willethe and reason ordeinethe that men vertuous and of noble courage be by theire merytes and good renowne rewarded and had in perpetuall memory for theire good name, and be in all places of honnor and wourshipp among other noble parsons accepted and reputed, by shewinge of certein ensignes and tokens of vtue, honner, and gentelness, to thentente that by theire Insample others shulde the more perseuerantly enforce themselfes to use theire tyme in honorable wourkes and vertuous dedes to purchase and gette the renowne of aucient noblesse, not oonly for themselfes, but allso for the heyrs and posteritee of them discended, accordinge to theire demerytes and valyant actes, to be taken forthe and reputed amonges all, nobles and gentels, and all be yt that ALEXANDER AMCOTTES, of Astroppe, in the Countie of Lyncolne, ys descended of honneste lignaige, and allso, his auncestors and predecessours hathe longe contynued in nobilitee and beringe armes laufull and conuenient, yett nevertheless he beinge incertein thereof hathe heretofore erred frome the same, the whiche I the said Garter perceyuenge after aduertisment and due proofe of the same to hym made, he knowlegeng his saide error in the premisses, hathe requyred and Instantly desyred me the saide Garter to ratefy and conferme unto hym, and allso to regester in my recordes, the true armes and blason of his saide auncestors, and therefore I the foresaide Garter, by vertue, power, and auctoritee to myne office of principall Kinge of armes annexed and attributed by the Kinge our Souerain Lorde, I haue appointed and cōfermed unto ye saide ALEXANDER AMCOTTES, these armes and creste with thappurtenaunces hereafter followenge, viz.:

Berethe Syluer, a castell betwene iii cuppes asure. In the secunde quarter, syluer, iiii barres goullys ouer all a lyon Rampant Sabulles crowned armed and langed golde. In ye thyrde quarter gōuls, a castell golde, the fylde droppt syluer. In the iiii quarter gōuls, a bende syluer, betwene iiii Cotteses golde; upon the bende iii Skallope shells sables. In ye v quarter syluer, a bende betwene ii Cotteses sables, upon the bende iii greffeth hedys raced syluer, bekett golde. In the vi quarter, syluer, iii Rose Garlondes gōuls, betwene ii Cotteses sables. Upon his Crest, a skurrell cuchant gōuls, crakinge of a notte golde; set upon a wrethe golde and asure; mantell sables, lyned syluer buttened golde as more plainely apperethe depicted in this margent.

To haue and to holde unto ye saide ALEXANDER AMCOTTES, and to his posteritee, with theire due difference therein to be reuested to his honner for ēumore.

In wittnes whereof I ye saide Garter Pn̄cipall Kinge of armes, as abouesaid, haue signed these pṣent with myn owne hāde and thereunto have sett ye seale of myn office and also ye seale of myn armes. Geven at Londō ye V day of October, in the yere of our Lorde God MDXLIX, and of the Reigne of our Souuerain Lorde, Kinge Edwarde ye VIte, by ye grace of God Kinge of Englande Fraunce and Irelonde defendor of ye faythe, and in earthe of the Churche of Englande and Irelande Supreme head. In the therde yere of his graces Reigne. C. B. als̄ Gartier.

WARD FAMILY, IPSWICH.

In some manuscript collections relating to Suffolk, during the Commonwealth period, are the following memoranda. The descendants of the Wards are now located in America, and are very wealthy.

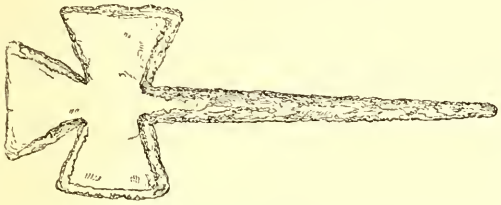
St. Clements, Ipswich.—The present rector is Mr. JOHN WARD, brother of Mr. SAMUEL WARD, sometime there Tower preacher. He married Lydia, sister of John Acton, Esq., of Bramford, and widow of Daniel Burrell, Gent. His estate as minister of St. Clements, by his wife, his owne lands and otherwise, viis et modis, is thought worth 400*l.* per annum.

A later edition states—There is since a handsome monument of alabaster against the wall, set up by Thomas Essington, Esq., and Anne, his wife, to preserve the memory of John Ward, minister there.

Mæ Sm
Conditur in isto Sacrario quod exuerat mortale
JOHANNIS WARD,
ipso cognomine laudatus quod et præstitit
inter fratres symmystas (τοῦς παλαι μαχαριτας)
nisi natu, haud cætera postremus. Qui cum pastorali
munere hoc loci supra vicennium, Simul
functus est fato, April 18°· an°· 1661. æt. 67.
Καὶ δι' αὐτῆς ἀποθανὼν ἔτι λαλεῖται. Heb. 11.
juxti et positi
Cineres piissimæ (quam præmiserat bienni
fere spatio) conjugis Lydiæ feminæ ut
familia amplissima, ita se magis spectatæ.
Ex cruce Flores.
Arms: Niger, a Maltese cross or.

THE CROSS OR SWORD AT AUCHENDRANE.

Traditionally, the cross or sword, cut upon a large grey granite boulder stone here, measuring from head to point forty-one inches, and transversely fifteen inches, is said to represent the sword of Sir William Wallace, the shape of which here shewn,



was cut into the stone by his followers to commemorate one of his successful raids between the years 1291 and 1297, against the soldiers of Edward the First of England, who were then in garrison in the neighbouring town of Ayr.

On the other hand, the author of the Description of Carrick, one of the districts of Ayrshire, who lived towards the close of the seventeenth century, and whose treatise is appended to Pitcairn's reprint of the History of the Kennedies, Edinb. 1830, states—'Upon the descent of Brown Carrick Hill, near to the mains of Blairstowne, is a big whinstone, upon which is the dull figure of a crosse, alledged to have been done by some venerable churchman, who did mediate a peace between the Kings of the Picts and the Scots, and to give the more authority to his proposals, did in their sight, by laying a crosse upon the stone, imprint that figure thereon.'

Which, therefore, of these stories is the most credible and the most deserving of belief? Hereabouts we prefer the first.

Is it a cross or a sword that is represented on the large granite boulder stone? and in either case, does it commemorate Wallace, or the peace between the Picts and the Scots? Possibly some of your numerous readers may be able to solve and settle this difficulty. The stone is now enclosed within a wall, in order to its preservation.

Auchendrane, Ayr, Oct. 9. E. C.

Presidential Hammer.—Whence is derived the practice of the chairman at public meetings calling to order by the rapping of a hammer?

Edinburgh, Oct. 11. E. G.

In May last, at a meeting of the British Archæological Association, Captain Tupper exhibited the head of a hammer, carved in ivory, having the arms of the Merchant Taylors' Company, London, on one end; and the other inscribed—The guift of Thomas Roberts, 1679. A portion of the handle of black wood remained in the socket. The origin of the Presidential Hammer, as a symbol of authority, is supposed, as it was then stated, to be sought for in the Mjölner of the mighty Thor.

LINES TO A FAIR STOIC.

The couplet quoted in Current Notes, p. 78, appears to admit of a closer translation than either there quoted, *e. g.*

Si, nisi quæ forma poterit te digna videri
Nulla futura tua est; nulla futura tua est.

Which I would render —

If, save the form in beauty worthy thee,
None shall be thine; thine none shall ever be.

Oct. 6. W. S.

On reading the couplet, and the translations, in Current Notes, p. 78, it appeared to me that none of them were sufficiently close to the original. To the following attempt you are welcome:

If none, but one, whose form seems worthy thee,
Shall be thine own; none thine will ever be.

Oct. 8. T. P. M. H.

REMARKABLE EPITAPHS IN LESLIE, FIFESHIRE.

To the memory of George Archer, aged 63, and his wife, Agnes Walker, aged 69. Both died in the month of May, 1711.

Here lyes within this earthen ark,
An Archer grave and wise;
Faith was his arrow, Christ the mark,
And glory was the prise.
His bow is now a harp, his song
Doth halleluiahs dite;
His consort Walker went along
To walk with Christ in white.

Upon a marble tablet is the following —

John Brown's dust lays here below,
Once served a noble earl,*
To his commands he ne'er said no,
Had it been on his peril.

His days and years they were spun out
Like to a thread most fine;
At last a period came about
Snapt it at ninety-nine.

It being the 24th day of May,
In the year forty-six,†
This honest man was called away,
To heaven we hope did fix.

On the same tablet, later was added —

Here lyes the dust of Charles Brown,
Sometime a wright in London town;
Who coming home parents to see,
And of his years being twenty-three;
Of a decay with a bad hort.‡
He dyed upon the Yorkshire cost;
The 10th of May, 1752.
We hope his soul in heaven rests now.

---

* Earl of Rothes. † 1746.
‡ Decay, a pulmonary consumption. Hort, a cough.

PICTORIAL NIMBUS OR GLORY.

Can any of your antiquarian readers give any illustrations of the Nimbus of painters, especially in reference to this sacred ornament of the heads of the Saviour and the Virgin Mary in particular; I mean as to its distinctive character, and as expressive of a particular age, or artist? One form, which is perhaps rather more rare than the circlet of light, though it is sometimes used with it, is, I believe, that of the small pointed flame resting upon the crown of the head. I wish to ascertain if this is indicative of a particular school, and of what school of art, as well as to have a reference or two to any remarkable pictures where examples of it are met with?

Oct. 1. E. B.

Millington's translation of Didron's Christian Iconography, 1851; and Mrs. Jameson's Legends of the Madonna, 1852, will furnish our correspondent with all he requires.

BIBLICAL MISTRANSLATION CORRECTED.

Joshua said in the sight of Israel—Sun, stand thou still upon Gibeon; and thou, Moon, in the valley of Ajalon. Ch. x., v. 12. In the Hebrew, the Rev. Stephen Weston observes, the reading is—Sun be thou silent on Gibeon, etc. Dum sile, Σιωπα. Aquila, Παυσον, cease to shine, in the Heavenly bodies, is non-appearance or absence. Lunæ silentis dies est interlunium. Plin, lib. xvi., c. 74. Virgil's Per amica silentia lunæ, is in the dark; and when the Greeks sailed unobserved to Troy, 'silentem lunum,' minimè tum lucentem. Politian. in locum. See also Deborah's song, where the stars fought against Sisera, by not lending their light, and his army, in the dark, was driven into the brook Kishon. Dante, Inferno, cap. 1., says—

Mi ripingeva là, dove'l sol tace.

These authorities shew that the original word might have been rendered literally, and not to have occasioned for its explanation the appearance of a miracle. Further, it is evident, the prolongation of light was not the object of Joshua's injunction to the Sun, because he adds, the Moon, which whilst the Sun was above the horizon, could have been of no effect. The prayer was made to the Lord, and the command given probably to enable the army of Joshua, to prolong the fight a whole day in a hot country, at the summer solstice, which would otherwise appear to have been impracticable under a meridian sun. Standing, and not hastening to go down, are expressions intelligible enough, of objects whose motion is not perceivable, when obscured by a cloudy atmosphere. J. C.

The Emperor Napoleon, on the occasion of the baptism of the Prince Imperial, has presented the Pope with a superb piece of Gobelins' tapestry, and a baptismal font. The chef-d'œuvre of Caravaggio, in the Vatican, the Descent from the Cross, is the subject of the tapestry; and the font, ornamented with symbols of the Evangelists, is of Sévres porcelain.

Chronogram.—Among these whimsies of a bygone day is that by Cleaveland, entitled —

Chronosticon Decollationis Caroli Regis, Tricesimo die Januarii, secunda hora pomeridiana:

Ter Deno IanI Labens ReX soLe CaDente
CaroLVs exVtVs soLIo sCeptroqVe seCVte.

Cambridge, Oct. 13. M.

Porson.—The following translation of the Latin charade to Miss Laura Crow, in Current Notes, p. 75, is submitted for insertion.

Late, fondly gazing on your charms,
Laura! from me, my first, you stole;
Yet, haply clasp me in your arms:
The loss you caused would soon be whole.
But, than my first, more cold is thine,
As than my second, thine more fair;
While from yon oak, dull croaks divine
To ill starr'd hopes nought but despair.

Answer, Cor-nix. N. H.

The Jews, although scattered over the face of the earth, yet maintain an indissoluble bond of union and common interest. In every country they are as it were the servants, but the time may come when they will virtually be the masters in their turn. Even at the present day, are they not to a great extent the arbiters of the fate of Europe, maintaining on the one hand, the bond between the different States, by the mysterious power of wealth which they possess; and on the other, loosening the ties of social life, and introducing or fostering ideas of change and revolution among various peoples? In the Jewish nation stirs the Nemesis of the destiny of Europe. Von Haxthausen.

Holford House, situated near the north gate, in the Great Park of the Regent's Park, upon which the late proprietor expended, it is said, not less than fifty thousand pounds, the sewer thence to Hanover Gate cost five thousand, after being for the last two years a subject of much speculation, has been purchased by the Baptist Communion. The purpose being to move to this new and advantageous position the establishment of the Baptist College, now at Stepney; and in which, in addition to the training persons for the ministry, arrangements are to be effected for the reception of a limited number of lay-students. The committee are to have immediate possession. Report states the purchase money was 7000*l.*, but in the Times of the 14th inst., it is said—To complete the purchase, the sum of 8000*l.* is required, towards which, however, 5000*l.* has been already raised, Sir S. M. Peto having headed the list with the munificent donation of 1000*l.* Possibly this involves the money required for alterations to adapt the building for collegiate purposes. The land, probably about nine acres, within a ring fence, without the garden-wall of Holford House, is rented from the Crown, at nine pounds per acre per annum.

WILLIS'S CURRENT NOTES.

No. LXXI.] "Takes note of what is done—
By note, to give and to receive."—SHAKESPEARE. [NOVEMBER, 1856.

ON A NYMPH SLEEPING BY A FOUNTAIN.

The subjoined Latin Epigram, more elegant even than Professor Porson's, is to be found in the Anthologia Latina, vol. I. page 62. I send you two versions; the English is the well known one of Pope, which some of your readers may not be sorry to have again brought to their remembrance; the other is a Greek translation of my own; I trouble you with it only in the hope that it may elicit one from an abler pen.

Hujus Nympha loci, sacri custodia fontis.
Dormio, dum blandæ sentio murmur aquæ;
Parce meum, quisquis tangis cava murmura, somnum
Rumpere; sive bibas, sive lavere, tace.

Nymph of the Grot! these sacred springs I keep,
And to the murmur of these waters sleep;
Oh! spare my slumbers! gently tread the cave,
Or drink in silence, or in silence lave!

Κρουνῶν Ἔρκειος Νυμφὰ γλυκερώτατον ὕπνον
Ἐυδω- τοις ψιθυροις ὕδασι θελγόμενα·
Ὅιτινες ἐισερχέσθε, θέρει, ἐμα κοῖλα μελάθρα,
Σίγατ'·ἔιτε πίητ', ἔιτε λοῆσθε, φίλοι.

Newport, Essex. WILLIAM HILDYARD.

PICTORIAL NIMBUS OR GLORY.

Your correspondent E. B., has been referred to the best authorities on the subject of the Nimbus, yet it may be of service to inform him, that in a page illumination representing the festival of the Pentecost, in a beautifully executed Dutch missal, in my possession, which I suppose, from the character of the illuminations, to be of the early part of the Fifteenth Century; there are shewn the Twelve Apostles, six being on either side of the Virgin, who is seated on a sort of dais; with a circular Nimbus round their heads, and in addition, the red pointed flame mentioned by your correspondent, almost touching the heads. The absence of it over the head of the Virgin is compensated by the substitution of what appears to have been a White Dove, but in consequence of the colour having been laid on the burnished gold, it has suffered greatly by friction, and this supposition of mine may be liable to some little doubt. Ruskin, if I remember rightly, in his Lectures delivered at Edinburgh, stated that the Dutch Missals are much inferior in point of execution to the English and French, but the one to which I have referred, is certainly an exception to this rule.

North Shields. F. R. N. H.

THE TERM 'HARDEN JEWS' EXPLAINED.

In ages long since gone by, the application of 'Harden Jews,' was the cognomen given to the inhabitants of a small town in Flintshire, about five miles from Chester; called Hawarden, but commonly pronounced Harden. The term, singular as it may seem, is thus accounted for by a recent traveller in Wales, who met with the elucidation in some legendary traditions which he gathered in his progress.

During the reign of Cynan ap Elis ap Anarawd, king of Gwynedd North, at Hardin, was a Christian temple, and in it a rood-loft, in which was placed an image of the Virgin Mary, bearing in its hands a large cross, called 'the Holy Rood.' To this object of their adoration, the inhabitants, during the hot and dry summer of the year 946, addressed their supplications, and ardently implored rain, but unhappily without effect. Among others was the Lady Trowst, wife of Sitsilt, then governor of Harden Castle; but it so happened that while in prayer, the Holy Rood, from some unknown cause, fell upon her, and killed her. Incensed beyond control, a great tumult ensued, and it was at length determined not only to try the said Virgin for the murder of the Lady, but also for the inattention or neglect in not responding to the entreaties for rain from the numerous petitioners. The dumb 'made of hands' representative of 'Her Majesty of Heaven,' unable to reply to the charges exhibited against her, was deemed guilty, and the sentence was hanging, but one Span of Mancot, who was one of the judges, opposed this act, by saying it was best to drown the image, since it was rain for which they had prayed. This amelioration of the sentence was fiercely opposed by another of the triers named Corbin of the Gate, who advised that she should be laid on the sands, near the river. This proposition received the general assent, and on the tide receding, the water bore off placidly on its bosom the image of 'Our Lady,' to a place near the wall of the City of Chester, where on the following day it was found 'drowned and dead;' and in consequence, those by whom she was discovered burned her, and raised a monument, thus inscribed:

The Jews their God did crucify,
The Hard'ners theirs did drown;
Because their wants she'd not supply,
And placed her under this cold stone.

This incident, it is said, caused the name of the river that had been hitherto called the Usk, to be changed to Rood-Die, or Rood-Dee.

Angleterre. HOMO.

EARLY MERCHANT'S MARK.

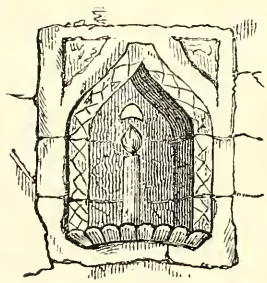
On the side of the Font in St. Michael's church, Coventry, is a small brass plate, on which the mark here shewn in the margin, is engraved, but no inscription. The Coventry annals state the Font in St. Michael's church was placed there in 1394, by John Crosse, Mayor for that year, and the mark seems to confirm that statement.

Lee Road, Blackheath. J. J. H.

TAPER OF EXORCISM, LAUNCESTON, CORNWALL.

The church of St. Mary Magdalen, Launceston, was erected early in the sixteenth century by the munificence of Sir Henry Trecarrel, who, conscious of being the last scion of that old Cornish family, desired in this noble manner to perpetuate his name and his piety. The architecture of the church, as may be supposed, is not remarkable for its purity of taste; the faults of the style are, however, amply redeemed by the unique mode of carving that adorns the whole exterior of the building, on which, among other ornaments, amid heraldic pomp, or graceful fancy, figure the arms of the town, and of the Trecarrels; the rich pomegranate, the slender feather of the Prince of Wales, and the blended roses of the House of Tudor.

Over the north door of this church, is observable the relic of Romish belief here depicted. It represents the Taper that was customarily yearly extinguished, at the time that Satan with his influence was supposed to be expelled from the church. In this especial instance, the representation of the Taper of Exorcism carries with it an additional interest of being one of the last monuments Papacy was enabled to raise for itself in the churches of 'Merrie England;' but with the dawn of the Reformation, the light that shone on the Church was unable to bury totally in the shade of deserved oblivion those ceremonies which had long occupied the minds of the people. The character of the English was then, as now, tenacious of old manners and observances; and it was only by degrees that a plainer and purer belief could be instilled into them.



The ceremonies of the Church of Rome joined itself with a superstitious fear of the north side of the church, in accordance with which the north door was frequently blocked up; a custom that still lingers in the darker part of of our land. Very lately, a clergyman informed me it was with some difficulty he prevailed on the parishioners of a village in one of the Midland counties, to turn the rusty locks and unloosen the heavy bars of the north door of the church, in order to proceed with a funeral. The fear of the north side of the church-yard as the favourite abode of unquiet ghosts and noisy spirits has possibly died out, but it is possible that some of your readers may have noticed instances of it, even in these days of enlightenment.

I should be glad of further information with regard to the ceremonies and observances enjoined on the occasion, when Satanic scores were cleared off for the year to come. I know of no other example of the sculptured Taper of Exorcism, sculptured over the north door, than that under notice, which is evidently debased in its style. Should however earlier examples be extant, I shall be thankful to know their situations and date.

Nov. 1. T. Harwood Pattison.

COLUMNAR ORNAMENT IN GULVAL CHURCH.

The interior of Gulval church was formerly, as occasion required, lime-whited, but about five or six years since, the vicar, the Rev. W. W. Wingfield, caused the whole to be cleansed of the lime-wash, and on an octagon pillar, were discovered two lables painted; on the first and third of three sides, the words, in Gothic characters, IN GRATIAM CHRISTI; and on the second, between the labels, the following device or figure:—

What is this centre representation? Is it intended for an olive branch? This discovery has occasioned much discussion here. A beacon it is not; nor are there any notches for footholds to the summit. It is unquestionably intended to pourtray a plant, though of what description is doubtful. Nothing of the kind grows in the neighbourhood, to my knowledge. All sorts of people have endeavoured to comprehend its meaning, but without success, probably some of your readers may explain this difficulty?

Penzance. Henry Williams.

ARMS OF THE BARBER SURGEONS' COMPANY.

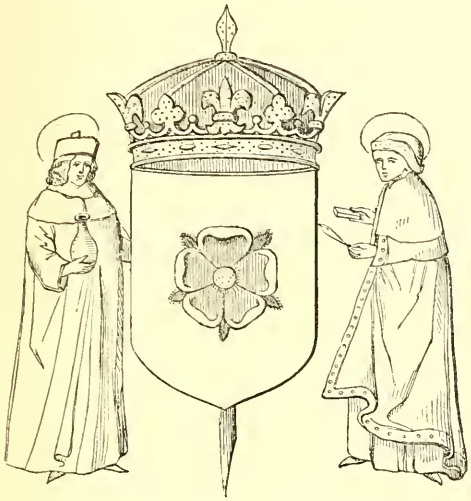
The original grant of arms to the Company of Barber Surgeons, by Garter, Clarencieux and Norroy, in 1569, is on parchment, having on three sides, a floriated border, with, at the top, the arms of Queen Elizabeth, between a Tudor rose, and a fleur-de-lis, or, each within a wreath, vert.

On the margin, on the left side of the grant, are emblazoned the arms, crest, supporters, and motto—DE PRÆSCIENTIA DEI—of the Company of Barber Surgeons; and on the right side, a portcullis, or, encircled within a wreath, vert.

The initial T, at the commencement, is of large size and illuminated; within it is the representation of Dethick, or Garter King of Arms, in his official tabard; and below, the date 1562.

Reference in this grant is made to heraldic insignia here stated to have been assigned by "King Henry th' Eight of famouse memory," to the Company of Surgeons solely, but for which no patent appeared; Garter and his associates seem not to have known that these arms

with supporters had been granted to the Company of Surgeons, in 1492, 7 Henry VII., during the mayoralty of Hugh Clopton. The coat and auxiliaries as then granted are here engraved from an emblazonment in



the Book of Ordinances of the worshipful men of the craft or science of Chirurgie in the Citie of London, dated May 10, 1435, 13 Henry VI.; still in the possession of the Barbers' Company.

Lee Road, Blackheath. J. J. HOWARD.

To all and singuler as well Kinges, Herehaultes, and Officers of Armes, as Nobles, Gentlemen and others to whome these presentes shall come, be seene, heard, read, or understand, Sir GILBERT DETHICKE, Knight, alias Garter principall Kinge of Armes; ROBERT COOKE, Esquire, alias Clarencieulx Kinge of Armes of the south partes of Englandè; and WILLIAM FLOWER, Esquire, alias Norroy Kinge of Armes of the northe partes of Englande, send greetinge in our Lorde God euerlastinge.

Forasmuch as aunciently from the beginninge the valiaunt and vertuouse actes of excellent personnes haue ben cōmended to the worlde and posterite with sondrey monumentes and remembrances of their goode deseartes, Emongst the which the chiefest and most usuall, hath ben the bearinge of signes and tokens in shildes, called armes, beinge none other thinges then euidences and demonstracions of prowesse and valoir diversly distributed accordinge to the qualytes and deseartes of the persons meritinge the same. To th'entent that such as have don cōmendable seruice to their prince or countrey, either in warre, or peace, or otherwyse, by laudable and couragiouse entreprices, or proceedinge of eny person, or persons, in th'augmentacion of the estate or cōmon wealth of their realme, or countrey, might therby receyve due honor in their lyues, and also deryue the same successively to their successors and posterite for euer.

And whereas in the Citie of London, th'experience and practise of the science and facultie of Chirurgery is most requisite, and duly to be exercysed, and experimented for the preservacion of meny, and by th'occasion of the practise thereof meny expert persons be brought up and experimented to the relief, succour, and helpe of an infinite nomber of persons; and for as much as within this Citie of London, there were two severall cōpanyes th'one by the name of Barbours Chirurgeons, and th'other by the name of Chirurgeons onely; the Barbours Chirurgeons being incorporate, and th'other not, and both occupyenge th'arte of Chirurgery, wheruppon greate cōtention did arise; and for that it was most meete and necessary that the sayd two cōpanyes shuld be vnited, and made one hole body, and so incorporated to th'entent, that by their vnion and often assembly togither th'exercyse and knowledge of their science and mistery might appeere as well in practise, as in speculation, not onely to themselfes but to others vnder theim: So that it was thought most meete and cōuenient upon graue and greate cōsideracion to vnyte and joyne the said two cōpanyes in one, which was don as may appeere by an acte of Parleament in ānо [1540] xxxij of Henry th'Eight, in these wordes:

Be it enacted, by the Kinge, our Souereigne Lorde, and the lordes spirituall and temporall, and the cōmons of the same, that the sayde two severall and distinct companies, that is to say bothe the Barbours Chirurgeons, and the Sourgeons, and every parson of theam, beinge a freeman of either of the saide cōpanies after the custome of the sayde Citie of London, and their successours, from hencefoorthe immediatly be vnyted, and made one entier and whole body corporate, and one societie perpetuall, which at all tymes heerafter shalbe called by the name of Maisters and Gouernours of the mistery and comunalty of Barbours and Surgeons of London, for euermore, and by none other name.

In consideracion wherof, and for that it doth appeere a thinge most requisite for the vnitinge of these two cōpanyes togither, and for that th'occupation of the Barbours Chirurgeons, beinge incorporate hath since the tyme of Kinge Henry the Sixt, used and boren armes, that is to say, Sables, a cheueron between three flewmes, argent, which were unto them assigned onely by the gifte and assignement of Clarencieulx, Kinge of armes, as by the patent thereof doth and may more plainly appeere, and since th'vnitynge of the sayde two cōpanies these armes of the sayd corporation of Barbours Chirurgeons hath ben used, and none other.

Yet, notwithstandinge the late Kinge Henry th'Eight of famouse memory, assigned and gave vnto the Company of the Chirurgeons onely, a cognoysance, which is, a Spatter thereon a rose gules, crowned golde, for their warrant in fielde, but no authorite by warrant, for the bearinge of the same in shilde as armes, and for that it pleased the same Kinge Henry th'eight, not onely to unite and incorporate these two cōpanyes togither by acte of Parleament but also hath ratifyed and cōfirmed the same by his letters patents, under the greate seale of Englande, and so lately cōfirmed by the Queenes Majestie that now is, And whereas, Thomas Galle, in the third yere of the Queenes Majesties reigne that now is, beinge maister; Alexander Mason, John Standon, Robert Mudesley, governors of the same corporation, mistery and cōmunaltie of Barbours and Chirurgeons, beinge desirouse to have some signes and tokens of honor, added and augmented to th'olde and auncient armes of the Barbours Chirurgeons, not onely for a perpetuall memory

as well of the famouse prince Kinge Henry th'Eight, their founder and patrone, but also for a further declaration of th'vnitinge of those two cōpanies togither, did instantly require the late Clarencieulx Heruey to cōsider the premisses, and to shew his endevor therin.

Who findinge their request just and lawfull, did graunt and giue unto theim, by his letters patentes, under the hand and seale bearinge date the 5th of July [1561,] in the third yere of the reigne of the Queens Majestie that now is, an augmentacion in chief to their old and auncient armes with heaulme and creast to the same, which chief was paly argent and vert, on a pale gules, a lyon passant gardant, golde, betweene two spatters, argent, on eche a double rose, gules and argent, crowned golde; and to their creast, on a torce, silver and sables, an Opinicus, golde, mantelled gules, doubled argent.

And further, in the tyme of Robert Basthrop, Esquire, Sergeaunt of the Queenes Majesties Chirurgeons, then beinge maister of the said mistery and cōmunalty of the Barbours and Chirurgeons; and George Vaughan, Richard Hughes, and George Corron, Governors of the same corporation, the sayd Clarencieulx Heruey, did graunt unto the sayd Corporation, two supporters to those armes, before given theim, which were two Linxe, in their proper coulor, aboute their neckes a crowne with a chayne, argent, pendent thereat as by the sayde letters patentes more plainly doth appeere.

Yet notwithstandinge, for as much as it doth plainly appeere vnto us, the sayd Garter, Clarencieulx and Norroy, Kinges of Armes, that the aforesayd armes in some respectes were not onely contrary to the wordes of the corporation of the sayd Barbours and Chirurgeons, but that also in the same patent of armes there are sondrey other thinges contrary, and not agreinge with the auncient lawes and rules of armes.

We the sayd Kinges of Armes, by power and authorite to us cōmited by letters patent under the greate Seale of Englande, have confirmed, giuen, and graunted, the foresayde armes, creast, and supporters heretofore mentioned to be boren in maner and fourme heer after specified. That is to say—

Quarterly, the first, sables, a cheveron betweene three flewmes, argent. The seconde quarter, per pale, argent and vert, on a spatter of the first, a double rose, gules and argent, crowned golde. The third quarter as the seconde; and the fourth, as the first; over all, on a crosse, gules, a lyon passant gardant, golde; and to their Creast, upon the heaulme on a Torce, argent and sables, an Opinicus, golde, mantelled gules, doubled argent, supported with two Linxe in their proper coulor about their neckes, a crowne with a chayne, argent, pendent thereat, as more plainly appeerith depicted in this margent.

Which Armes, Creast, and Supporters, and every parte and parcell thereof, We the sayd Kinges of Armes, have confirmed, ratified, giuen, and graunted, and by these presentes, do ratify, confirme, giue, and graunt, unto Richard Tholmowed, maister of the sayd mistery and cōmunaltie; Nicholas Archenbolde, Thomas Burston, and John Fielde, gouvernors of the sayd Corporation, Mistery, and Cōmunaltie of Barbours and Chirurgeons, and to their successors, by the name of Maister and Gouvernours, and to the whole assistantes, company, and fellowshippe of the sayd Corporation, mistery, and cōmunaltie of Barbours and Chirurgeons, within this Citie of London, and to their successors for euermore, and they the same to haue, holde, vse, beare, enjoy, and shewforthe in shylde, seale, banner, or bannerrolles; standard, or standardes; penon, or penons; pencell, or pencelles; or otherwise, to their honors and worshippes at all tymes, and for euer heerafter, at their libertie and pleasure without the impediment, let, molestation, or interruption of eny person, or persones.

In witnesse whereof, We the sayd Garter, Clarencieulx, and Norroy, Kinges of Armes, haue signed these presentes with our handes and affixed therunto, our severall Seales of Armes, the second day of June, in the yere of the nativitie of our Lorde Jesus Christ [1569,] and in the eleventh yere of the reigne of our most dread Souvereyne, Lady Elizabeth, by the grace of God, Queene of Englande, Fraunce, and Irelande, defender of the faithe, etc.

GILBERT DETHICK, alias Garter, principall Kinge of Armes.

ROBERT COOKE, alias Clarencieulx Roy Darmes.

p̄ moy WYLLIAM FLOWER, alias Norroy Roy Darmes.

Entered, approved, and allowed, in the Visitation made 1634.

HEN. ST. GEORGE, Richmond.

THE ANTIQUARY AND THE NOVELIST.

Most of your readers will remember the opening scene of Sir Walter Scott's Antiquary, in which Oldbuck forms the acquaintance of Lovell; and they may possibly recollect the bookseller's boy bearing in his hand a folio volume, the leaves of which the zealous bibliomaniac anxiously turned over to ascertain that it was in every respect perfect. This tome Mr. Jonathan patronizingly informs his new acquaintance is 'Sandy Gordon's Itinerarium Septentrionale,' a book illustrative of the Roman Remains in Scotland.*

On referring to Chambers' Biographical Dictionary of eminent Scotsmen, art., Alexander Gordon, it will be seen how very little is known respecting him: the following letter addressed to Anderson, the Scotish antiquary, and dated August 19, 1723, will therefore doubtless be perused with some interest:—

Sir, Since you did me the favour of lending me Sibbald's book, I have been much instructed and informed by it, I have therefore ranged over all the booksellers' shops in town in search of purchasing it, but to no purpose, save that Paton has promised to procure it for me this week; however, seeing the Baron and I shall probably go out of town to-morrow, I have in a manner an indispensable necessity of having that book of Sibbald's along with me in my antiquary peregrinations; so if I could so far prevail on your goodness to lend it to me, till I come back from the Virtuoso Tour, which can be no further than Glasgow, Stirling and Perth this summer, I should take it as a demonstration of very condescending goodness in you, seeing I cannot get another at present, and this book is absolutely necessary for my designs, seeing it directs me to fifty or sixty places which I know nothing about. Besides, I am to trace the Vallum according to the stages set down in this draught. All this considered and that it may chance to be a public good, I hope you will indulge me with the favour which I came to ask of you in person, but that I heard you were at Fowlbriggs. I am therefore impatiently waiting your commands this way, or, if positively you will have it returned, I shall; but at any rate, I should not keep it

* Waverley Novels, edit. 1829, vol. v. p. 11.

long from you. I beg a thousand pardons for this my presumption in so early an acquaintance, but if ever there be any thing wherein in the future I can serve you, the effectuating it shall be the greatest pleasure imaginable to

Sir, your most obedient servant,
ALEXANDER GORDON.

The work referred to by Gordon, was a thin folio, printed at Edinburgh in 1703, entitled Historical Enquiries concerning the Roman Monuments and Antiquities in the North part of Britain called Scotland; by Sir Robert Sibbald, M.D. At the date of Gordon's letter it was then very rare, and is now not often seen. Anderson was a very obliging person, and there can be but little doubt that Gordon was allowed to retain possession of the so much coveted tome.

'The Baron' was Sir John Clerk of Pennycook, one of the Barons of the Exchequer, a Scotish antiquary of considerable eminence. Anderson, it is almost needless to mention, was the editor of the well-known Diplomata Scotiæ, the preparation of which ruined him.

Paton was a bookseller at Edinburgh, the father of George Paton, the correspondent of Gough; and who collected a library, which, as regarded Scotish literature, was the finest ever formed in Scotland. His letters to Gough, with a large collection of letters addressed to himself, are in the library of the Faculty of Advocates. The letters of Bishop Percy, with those of several other eminent persons, were, at the suggestion of Sir Walter Scott, edited, with an Introduction and Notes, by James Maidment, Esq., Advocate, and published some years since at Edinburgh, by Stevenson; but the volume has long been, to use a bookseller's phrase, out of print.

It is somewhat surprising that, although Anderson did so much and so well for the history of his own country, few people South the Tweed know much about him. In England, no private individual ever produced such a work as the Diplomata Scotiæ, and the publications of the Original Record Commissioners are merely monuments of unnecessary expenditure; for the most part, instead of finding their ways to libraries for general use, are consigned to the tobacconist, or the trunkmaker, — in truth, for one-fourth of the public money so squandered, all the most valuable records possessing interest, might have been printed; and that too in a most satisfactory manner.

Edinburgh, Nov. 5. M.

HEARNE'S UNPUBLISHED REMAINS.

The Manuscript Diaries of the Oxford Antiquary, edited by Rev. Philip Bliss, D.D., are announced for publication; they are replete with biographical minutiæ, personal anecdote, and historical gossip, more particularly illustrative of the local antiquities, and by-gone habits and manners of the University. The impression is limited; in 2 vols. octavo, 150 copies, at Two guineas; 50 copies, in 2 vols. on LARGE PAPER, at Three pounds ten shillings, to range with Hearne's publications, issued by himself. The work is printed for subscribers only, and names are received by Messrs. Willis and Sotheran.

RELICS OF THE FAMILY OF THE STUARTS.

Henry, Cardinal of York, bequeathed to an officer of his household, designated his *gentiluomo*, certain jewels and weapons, of considerable intrinsic value for their artistic merits, but more especially interesting from the circumstance of their having been the property at different periods of various members of the House of Stuart. This collection of the Stuart relics has recently been purchased at Rome, for Lord John Scott, for about 600*l.*, from the person to whom they were bequeathed, and consist of the following articles: —

An enamelled medallion of the order of St. George, formerly worn by King Charles the First.

A ring with a cameo portrait in ivory of King James the Second. A gold ring with a white rose in enamel, worn by the same monarch, and by his son, the Pretender, designated King James III.

The ring worn by the latter, on his marriage with the Princess Clementina Sobieski; also the marriage ring of his son Prince Charles Edward, enclosing an exquisite small miniature.

An emerald seal, formerly belonging to James III.; and a chalcedony seal, engraved with the order of St. Andrew. A dial and compass mounted in silver, formerly belonging to Charles Stuart.

Charles Edward Stuart's watch seal, bearing the motto —CHACVN À SON TOVR. Cardinal York's seal, with the Royal arms of England.

A ring, with a miniature portrait, when young, of Prince Henry Stuart, afterward Cardinal Duke of York.

A ring with a cameo portrait of James Sobieski, great uncle of the Pretender's wife; by the celebrated gem engraver Pickler.

A ring with a cameo portrait of the wife of Prince Charles Edward, by the same artist.

A ring with a cameo portrait of Prince Charles Edward; and another, with a similar portrait of the Duchess of Albany. Another, containing a lock of her hair. A portrait of the Duchess of Albany's mother.

The weapons comprise the blade of King John Sobieski's sword. A jasper-handled dagger taken from the tent of a Turkish Bey, at the siege of Vienna; and a pair of richly ornamented pistols, formerly the property of the Sobieski family.

The highly valuable collection of Antiquities and articles of Art and Vertu, formed by Mr. Hertz, of Argyle-street, including those purchased at Mr. Rogers' recent sale, have been added to that formed by Joseph Mayer, Esq., who with princely munificence has presented the whole to the town of Liverpool, in aid of establishing their Museum, of which he will ever remain the principal founder.

Vita brevis, Ars longa. Whence is this well known adage derived? H. C.

From Hippocrates: the adage 'Life is short, Art is long,' is a translation of the first of his Aphorisms.

FIGURES OF PRELATES ON TOMBS.

Whence originated the practice of placing the effigies of deceased Prelates on their Tombs? S. M.

In the third volume of Spelman's Concilia, it is stated: Thomas de Marleberg, abbot of Evesham was the first person who introduced the custom of placing such figures upon sepulchral monuments, which he did on the tombs of two of his predecessors, and also on a third designed for himself. He died in 1213.

LORD PANMURE AND ROSS'S MONUMENT.

In Current Notes, August 1855, p. 62, it will be observed, notice was there made, that the monument which was raised by subscription to the memory of Alexander Ross, A.M., the schoolmaster and poet, of Loch Lee, was then misplaced, in so far as it was erected in the *new* burial ground of the parish, fully a mile distant from the old one in which the poet and his wife were both interred. This was occasioned by the obstinate whim of a late minister of the parish who determined the monument should become an ornament to the new burial ground; and accordingly, contrary to the desire of the subscribers, and the urgent remonstrances of many disinterested parties persisted in its being so misplaced. Our observations upon the subject having happily fallen under the notice of Lord Panmure, the proprietor of this romantic district, his Lordship, during his recent visit there, caused Ross's memorial to be taken from the new church, and placed at the head of the poet's grave, in the fine old burial ground, within a pistol shot distance of which are also the ruins of the poet's dwelling house, and the parish school in which he taught the youth of the neighbourhood for more than fifty-two years.

The monument is simply a plain tablet of Aberdeen granite, inscribed with his birth in 1699, and his death, in 1784, and referring to his literary labours.* His songs of the Rock an' the Wee pickle tow; To the biggin we will go; Wooed an' married an' a; and many others are as popularly well known; and sung by the peasantry between the rivers of Tay and Spey, as are those of Burns. Dr. Beattie, of Minstrel notoriety, was Ross's contemporary and intimate friend; and having upon one occasion visited him at Loch Lee, wrote him a curious address, in Scottish verse.

Since the death of Ross, many a young poet, some of whom their country is now proud to honour, have made pilgrimages to his romantically situated grave; and by the absurdly misplacing of his monument, many have left the district, wending on their way, in the belief that no memorial marked his last deposit, or honoured his genius; but the recurrence of these apprehensions has now been obviated by the prompt and laudable interposition of Lord Panmure, who, amidst the many honours so justly gained from his Queen and country, has thus also insured the humble gratitude of every admirer of Scottish Poets and Poetry.

* See Mr. Andrew Jervise's History and Traditions of the Land of the Lindsays, 1853, 8vo. p. 73.

BOAR'S HEAD TAVERN, EASTCHEAP.

Is Washington Irving's account of the following Epitaph in St. Michael's Church, Crooked Lane, on the tomb of Robert Preston, whilom drawer at the Boar's Head Tavern, in Eastcheap, true, or a pleasant fiction of that most pleasant writer in his very fictitious article in the Sketch Book, on that famous Tavern?

Bacchus to give the toping world surprise,
Produced one sober son, and here he lies.
Though rear'd among full hogsheads, he defy'd
The charms of wine, and ev'ry charm beside.
O reader! if to justice thou'rt inclined,
Keep honest Preston daily in thy mind:
He drew good wine, took care to fill his pots;
Had sundry virtues that excused his faults.
You that on Bacchus have the like dependence,
Pray copy Bob in measure and attendance.

Perhaps some of your readers can tell me? I have a purpose in ascertaining its truth.

Needham Market, Nov. 4. LINCOLN GREEN.

In the church-yard of St. Michael, Crooked-lane, was formerly a tablet to the memory of Robert Preston, late drawer at the Boar's Head Tavern, in Great Eastcheap, who departed this life, March 16, 1730, aged twenty-seven years; followed by the ten lines quoted by our correspondent. They were first noticed and printed in the London Magazine for August, 1733.

FEMALE PROFESSORS OF SCIENCE.

By the following extract from Malden, on the Origin of Universities, p. 63, it appears that the United States of America is not the only country where the ladies share with the sterner sex the privilege of competing for academical distinctions.

One of the most singular points in the history of the University of Bologna, is the admission of the female sex to its honours and offices. There is mention in early times of learned women on whom degrees were conferred. It is said that Novella d'Andera read lectures on jurisprudence, but took the precaution of drawing a curtain between herself and her auditors. Mrs. Piozzi mentions La Dottoressa Laura Brassi, who taught arithmetic and natural philosophy; and Lady Morgan has introduced us to Signora Clotilda Tambroni, a learned professor of Greek. But the boldest inroad into the scientific province of the ruder sex was made by Madame Manzolina, who lectured on anatomy.

St. Alban's Parsonage, Gateshead. E. H. A.

SUFFOLK TRADITIONAL CURE FOR FITS.

In the following rustic prescription, that little animal the Mole, is the victim to an absurd and ignorant belief.

A friend, resident in the most north-easterly part of Suffolk, was thus recently addressed by an old woman: —I wish, Sir, yow'd catch me a live Moll. For what purpose? asked my informant. Why, Sir, you see my darter's little gal is got fits, and I'm told that if I get a live Moll, cut the tip of his nose off, and let nine drops bleed onter a lump of sugar, and give that to the child, 'tis a sartin cure.

Nov. 14. JOHN F. FOWLER.

ULTIMUM VALE, A

LAST FAREWELL OF THOMAS, EARLE OF STRAFFORD,

Written by himselfe a little before his death.

[Reprinted from the original broad sheet.]

Farewell vain World, farewell my fleeting joyes,
Whose best of musick's but an Echo's noyse;
And all the lustre of your painted light,
But as dull dreams and fantoms of the night.
Empty your pleasures too, nor can they last
Longer than aire-puft bubbles, or a blast.

Farewell you fading Honours, which do blinde
By your false mists the sharpest sighted minde;
And having raised him to his height of cares,
Tumble him headlong down the slippery stairs.
How shall I praise or prise your glorious ills,
Which are but poyson put in golden pills.

Farewell my Blus'tring Titles, ne'er come backe,
You've sweld my sailes until my mastings cracke,
And made my Vessel reele against the rocks
Of gaping ruine, whose destructive knocks
Hath helplesse left me, sinking, here to lie:
The cause? I raised my main-top sailes too high.

Farewell Ambition, since we needs must part,
Thou great Inchantresse of man's greater heart:
Thy gilded titles that do seeme so faire,
Are but like meteors hanging in the aire:
In whose false splendor, falling thence, is found
No worth, but water-like shed on the ground.

Farewell the Glory, from which all the rest
Derive the sweets for which men style them blest,
That from one root in several branches spring;
I meane—The favor of my Gratious King:
This too, hath led my wand'ring soule astray,
Like *Ignis Fatuus* from its righter way.

Farewell my Friends, I need not bid you go;
When Fortune flies, you freely will doe so:
Worship the rising, not the setting Sun.
The house is falling, Vermin quickly run.
Bees from the wither'd flowers do make haste:
The reason? Because they have lost their taste.

Farewell the Treasures of my tempting store,
Which of all Idols I did least adore;
Haste to some Idiot's coffer, and hee'l bee
Thy slave, as I have master been to thee.
Heaven knowes of all the suitors that I had,
I prized thee least, as counting none so bad.

Lastly, my Foes Farewell: for such I have
Who do in multitudes wait for my grave;
'Mongst which I can't beleeve but some there be
That hate my vices only, and not me:
Let them passe ore my fame without a blot,
And let the vulgar snatch, they know not what.

Let them besmeare me by the chatt'ring notes,
Poor silly hearts, which echo through their throtes;
I ll passe it ore and pray, with patience too;
Father forgive, they know not what they do.

Yet O! I could have woo'd my treach'rous Fate
T'have let me died without the publique hate.

London, printed 1641.

WIMBORNE MINSTER LIBRARY.

Some time since, a correspondent in Dorsetshire discoursed pleasantly concerning the old library attached to Wimborne Minster. I should like to draw his attention *en passant* to its present state. When down there recently I did not forget to inquire for it, when the sexton conducted me to a damp vestry, where the books were piled on the stone floor in dreary disorder. The damp had already commenced its ravages upon them, and the sexton mournfully hinted at the prospect of the coming winter. Upon one, a Manuscript of the Gospels, mouldy decay was already visible. The reason assigned is, that a new library is being built to receive these books; but if more care is not taken, the new library will be only suitable for their grave.

I assure Mr. Garland that I have not overstated their present condition.

Needham Market, Nov. 4. LINCOLN GREEN.

CENTENARIAN QUEEN OF THE LAKE.

Toward the close of the seventeenth century was born the memorable Margaret uch Evan of Penllyn, of whom it may be truly said—How little was it thought while the bantling crawled upon the floor, and feebly tottered to gain its mother's knee, unable to lisp her native tongue, that she in particular should live to become so celebrated an example of the spirit and strength of the ancient British fair. Pennant observes of her—This extraordinary female was the greatest fisher, hunter, and the best shooter of her time: she kept at least a dozen dogs, terriers, greyhounds, and spaniels, all excellent in their kinds. She killed more foxes in one year than all the confederated hunters do in ten.* Mistress of most mechanical arts, she was a good joiner, and while under contract to convey the copper ore down the lakes, she built her own boats, rowed them stoutly, and was the Queen of the Lake. She made her own shoes; and as a blacksmith, made the shoes, and shod her own horses. She made harps, and well versed in all the old British airs, fiddled excellently. Many of the neighbouring bards paid their addresses to her, and celebrated her many exploits, in pure heroic British verse; till at length, as if determined to maintain the superiority which Nature had so pre-eminently bestowed upon her, she gave her hand to the most effeminate of her admirers. In most field diversions she had no superior, and even at the age of seventy was considered the best wrestler in the county, so that few young men dared to try a fall with her. She had a maid-servant of congenial qualities, but Death ere long earthed this faithful companion; and Margaret herself, having lived through an entire century, at length succumbed to this mighty monitor in 1801, when she had attained her one hundred and fifth year.

Harbledown. S.

* Journey to Snowdon, 1781, p. 158.

RELICS OF ALEXANDER SELKIRK.

Howell, in the Introduction to his Life and Adventures of Alexander Selkirk, printed at Edinburgh, 1829; mentions seeing in 1823, the cup and chest that had once belonged to Robinson Crusoe, the name by which he has been rendered an object of so much interest, in the house at Largo, so admirably and so recently pourtrayed in Current Notes, pp. 73-74. He also notices no information was then obtainable 'except a few vague traditions repeated by an old man, a relative of Alexander Selkirk's, who possessed the precious relics, and dwelt in the house:' this it would seem was the husband of the now surviving widow Gillies, alluded to by your correspondent.

In the spring of 1825, Howell discovered in the person of John Selcrag, a teacher of youth, at Canonmills, a village near Edinburgh, a veritable grand-nephew of Alexander Selkirk, who was in possession of two relics which had once belonged to his distinguished relative: a staff, or walking-stick, and his flip-can—the latter, in an appeal, printed in February, 1841, for assistance to alleviate the then distressed condition of the owner, an aged and indigent man—is described as being made of brown glazed stone ware, resembling a common porter jug, and holding about a Scottish pint. Every thing that belonged to a sailor in the olden time, that would admit of it, had its rhyme, and this flip-can had the following inscription and posy: —

Alexander Salkurke, this is my one [i.e. own].
When you me take on bord of ship,
Pray fill me full with punch or flipp.

Fulham.

Alexander Selkirk obtained this stone ware jug from the pottery at Fulham, about the middle of 1703, while waiting for the equipment and sailing of the Cinque Ports Galley, to which he had been appointed sailing master. That the flip-can, as his grand-nephew designated it, doubtless accompanied him on his voyage, was with him on the island of Juan Fernandez, and was brought home by him, there cannot reasonably be entertained any doubt; and it appears that it had been highly venerated in the family, had been generally locked up, and, at one time, by a niece, during fifty years. It had been cracked, and to prevent the crack from extending, Selkirk had himself while at sea attached a patch of pitch: this had also been specially retained. Can any correspondent of Current Notes state where these relics are now deposited? The fact of 'Fulham' being attached to the distich, as the place of fabrication, renders the Jug an object of interest as a specimen of the early pottery, for which Lambeth and Vauxhall are now so deservedly celebrated.

Selkirk doubtless never dreamed of the posthumous fame that awaited him: it is not certified that he communicated any papers to De Foe, who it would seem based his glorious fiction on the Voyages to the South Sea, and round the World, by Captain Edward Cook, printed in 1712, in 2 volumes, 8vo.

Woolwich, Nov. 3. E. M.

THE JEWS NOT THE ARBITERS OF EUROPE.

Allix's Refutation of the last Hope of the Jews, may serve as a refutation of Von Haxthausen: and, it may be remarked, one does not see how Von Haxthausen's assertion, that the Jews are now our servants, can be reconciled with what follows, that the Jews are now to a great extent the arbiters of the fate of Europe; or, how his further views can be reconciled with Revelation? On the Divine authority, we may rest satisfied, the Jews have no more important a destiny in the affairs of Europe, than this, and truly of no small importance, namely, to be witnesses for God to the end of the world, to all who believe not their Messiah, our Christ, God and Man, manifested to destroy the works of the Devil, in love to our souls, and to bring us nigh to God.

Clifton, Bristol: HORATIO MONTAGU.

LORD COCKBURN'S MEMORIALS.

The accuracy of the late Lord Cockburn, with reference to several statements in his recently published Memorials, has been impugned. Among other charges is the one he has related of the Judge at Gerald's trial, in 1794; a remark, it was asserted, that was at most—an after thought; but on referring to Pryse Lockhart Gordon's Memoirs and Reminiscences, I found, as I anticipated, if the authority of Mr Gordon, who affirms he was present at the trial, be trustworthy, and this there is no reason to question; a strong confirmation of Lord Cockburn's story. Subjoined are both versions —

In his [Gerald's] speech, which was anything but a defence, he unfortunately attacked the Lord Chief Justice M[ansfield,] a severe judge, and a bitter enemy to reform. The prisoner at the bar stated—'that it was reform and not revolution which he wanted, and that Jesus Christ was a reformer.' Weel, sir, and muckle did he get by that! Was na' he crucified? The most brutal and impious remark that ever came from the mouth of a Judge. Gordon, vol. i. p. 149.

The reporter of Gerald's case could not venture to make the prisoner say more than 'that Christianity was an innovation,' but the full truth is, that in stating this view, he added, that all great men had been reformers—'even our Saviour himself.' 'Muckle he made o' that,' chuckled Braxfield, in an under tone—'he was hanget.' Cockburn's Memorials, p. 117. K. Y. E.

NE SUTOR ULTRA CREPIDAM.

In one of the principal streets in Fisherrow, near Musselburgh, is the following sign-board —

BUTOOS AND
SHOUS repreD
HeR HouF BuRNSS

It was copied by myself as nearly as possible to the original, and is, I think, as a curiosity from a land celebrated for good and cheap education, worthy of a place in your Notes,

Haddington, Nov. 5. ROBERT PAPE.

ERRATA.—P. 84, col. 2, l. 10, for pellets, read pallets. P. 86, col. 2, l. 38, for edition, read addition. P. 87, col. 2, for hort read host.

WILLIS'S CURRENT NOTES.

No. LXXII.] "Takes note of what is done— By note, to give and to receive."—SHAKESPEARE. [DECEMBER, 1856.

FEUDS OF THE VEITCHES AND TWEEDIES.

These two families, though now of little notoriety, were at a former period, of some importance. James, whom it has been the fashion of late to ridicule; had during his Scotish reign, adopted every measure in his power to tame the "perferoidum genus Scotorum," and as he was not very scrupulous in the means used, was so successful, that when he ascended the English throne, his native country was making rapid strides towards civilization. Had he lived ruler of Ireland, a few years longer, Ulster would not have remained the only portion of that country in which life and property were deemed safe. James was in fact a much wiser man than his son Charles, and fully as honest. The following unpublished letter, addressed to the Lords Privy Council, relative to the feuds between the Veitches and the Tweedies, goes far to establish the vigour of his Scotish administration—

Right Trustie and Well beloved Cousins and Counsellors, We greet you well. Whereas We understand that the deadly feud between the Veitches and Tweedies is as yet unreconciled, and our peace kept between them only by the means of renewing of assurance from time to time; but since we came so far by great pains in our person or during our stay there, and by our continued directions sinsyne, and suppressed that monster within that kingdom, so as We do hardly think that there be any feud except this unreconciled, and the wrongs and mischiefs done by either of them, as we understand to others being in such a proportion of a compensation as neither part boast of advantage or otherways unless he be himself too much blind. Therefore our Pleasure and Will is, that you call before you the principals of either surname, and then take such course for removing of the Feud, and reconciling as We have been accustomed to do in the like cases: And, whoever shall disobey your commands and directions, you shall commit them prisoners and certifie us thereof to the effect We may return unto you our further pleasure and will therein. And so we bid you farewell.

From our Court at Greenwich, the 10th of March, 1611.

The Veitches and the Tweedies were a higher class of border maranders; the Elliotts had not then come into much notice.

Edinburgh, Dec. 5. M.

The study of antiquities constantly reveals some adventitious feature in elucidation of the history of the past, and opening the way to an infinite number of diverging results, frequently differing widely from the generally accredited opinion, but which only a patient and skilful pertinacity of research, can render successfully available.

COLUMNAR ORNAMENT IN GULVAL CHURCH.

The meaning of the centre representation on the pillar in Gulval Church, referred to by your correspondent, HENRY WILLIAMS, in Current Notes, p. 90, no doubt, represents the White Lily, (Lilium Candidum) in dedication to the Virgin Mary, mother of Christ.

Yarmouth. W.

ARMS TO PARLIAMENTARY REPRESENTATIVES.

I have heard it stated that prior to the Commonwealth, any person who became a member of Parliament, if he had not a coat of arms, had one granted to him. I should feel obliged if, through the medium of Current Notes, it were notified that such was the fact; and where a list of such arms may be found?

Also, is there any list of arms of the members of Parliament, Lord Mayors and Sheriffs of the City of York?

Rotherham, Dec. 12. A SEA LAWYER.

Chivalry with its gorgeous splendour during the reigns of Elizabeth and James was evidently waning, and had lost much of its original attractions by the substitution and intermixture of Italian shows, while the Military ardour which was its chief impetus, had greatly subsided; the pride of ancestry, seems at this era to have been very generally avowed and encouraged in opposition to those of newly-acquired pretensions. The practice of the law, and the wealth arising from commercial advantages, had, in fact, created a new order in society who were ambitious of the ensigns and rank of gentility, and these honours were not obtainable from the heralds but upon the strictest inquiry, and frequent references to the Institutes of the Earl Marshal's Court, serve only to authenticate the equity and liberality which directed most of their proceedings in days, invidiously, perhaps, deemed gothic, savage, and unlettered, but certainly those when just claims only were confirmed, and real merit obtained its rewards. The fact of being returned as a parliamentary representative, conferred doubtless a rank of gentility on persons whose family possibly in a previous generation, the heralds might have deemed ineligible to armorial honours, and in that light only could be connected with our correspondent's enquiry. The grants of arms to all or any of such claimants are to be found only upon search of name in the records of the College of Arms.

Lists of names of the High Sheriffs of York, the Parliamentary representatives, the Mayor and Bailiffs, Lord Mayors and Sheriffs, to1735, are printed in Drake's History of York, 1736, fol. pp. 350-367, but the armorial distinctions are not particularised.

M

HOLYWELL, HUNTINGDONSHIRE.

The parish church is a gem in its way for any person of an ecclesiological taste, and greatly resembles in form those so frequently observable in Kent. It has a square tower, but no spire, has a regular nave, lateral aisles, and a perfect chancel. The piercings for the windows are much like those we see in the ruined abbey and church walls, which had their day some six or seven centuries since. A pointed arch forms the windows, but a stone mullion in the centre divides it into two light lancet arches within. In the chancel there are three very narrow windows on the south side, and two on the north. The other windows are of elegant formation, while the fretted quoins and mullions have a venerable aspect. The exterior walls are covered with a yellowish kind of lichen; and the roof seems tanned as it were by the effects of Sol's rays during the lapse of centuries. On one of the beams of the roof, in the interior, is the date 1595. The pews have a coarse old appearance, and are mostly all open. The font is large, and has an aperture at bottom, but was evidently constructed for the dipping of children, in accordance with the general practice in England, until with Calvin's dogmas of faith, sprinkling or affusion was substituted.

Is there any known legend or tradition in connection with the well that gives name to the parish of Holywell, similar as it might be premised to that of the famous well of St. Winifred, that supplies the name to the parish of Holywell in Flintshire? The well here, with a view to its preservation, is now enclosed by a newly constructed wall, and partly covered over. Whatever was the legendary story, it seems now to be wholly unknown to the present generation of the inhabitants. Can any reader of Current Notes supply any facts in reference to this legend?

Downpatrick, Dec. 18. JAMES A. PILSON.

WALLINGTON'S JOURNAL.—In Notes and Queries, vol. v. p. 489, is an inquiry respecting a manuscript journal of Nehemiah Wallington, 1618-36, that was sold at the dispersion of Gulston's library in 1784. At that sale it was purchased by Mr. George Baker of St. Paul's Churchyard, and in 1824, if not before, passed into the Upcott Collection, from which it was purchased for the Corporation Library, Guildhall, London, for Twenty-five pounds.

CONTINENTAL SIGNS AND SIGN-BOARDS.

The good old custom of placing a sign above the shop by way of distinction, from the very general mode of numbering now adopted, has been rendered unnecessary in England, and is with us almost extinct. It is only in our hostelries that signs have been retained, and in many instances these are becoming superseded in the grander Hotels; however, we still in general look for real comfort and good old English cheer at the Tabard or at the Boar.

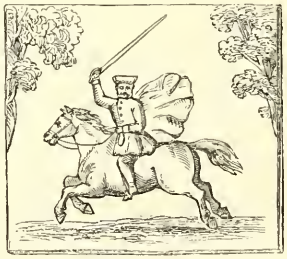
All persons who have visited foreign parts must have noticed that signboards though rare with us, are commonly in use abroad; and the peculiarities of these countries, their past history, or legendary lore are there retained in their original and quaint guise.

The employments of the districts which find markets for their goods in particular cities or towns, are readily perceptible in the signs which hang over the shop doors. In North France, they are resplendent in colour and gilding; in Holland they are quaint and sober; in Germany they are generally substantial, and often wildly imaginative; and in Belgium, a mixture of each of these countries, with an air of pasteboard and negligé, not very inviting, however attractive or good may be the contents of the shop. This classification may of course be carried into the provinces and minor divisions, where the neighbourhood of the cloth manufactory, or spinning-wheel, the hop-ground, or the flax-field is perceptibly stamped with tolerable plainness in the signs of the principal towns; but nowhere are signs and signboards seen to better advantage than at Lille, the centre of a fertile and rich district, the market of a busy and industrious people, the chief city in North France, and in truth, the paradise of good shops and polite merchants.

Bordering on Flanders, the old historical memories of the land of artizans and people-power remain on the signs. Lille, indeed, is still the capital of a little manufacturing kingdom, rendered by its own industry and natural fertility tolerably independent.

The golden signs predominate in Lille, as indeed they do in all parts of French Flanders, and in their ludicrous connection with the commonest articles of every-day life, they bring back the story of Midas's touch of gold, and its unfortunate results.

Small and common as it may seem, the sketch of the Green Knight—



made by me from a sign, while rambling in the streets of Lille, n August last; serves to awaken some few historical reflections. The 'Flander's mare,' clumsy, fleshy, and thick set, reminds one of Cuyp's pastures, and the remark in connection of Anne of Cleves, and her sometime lord and master, our own bluff Harry, while the Knight who bestrides the prancing steed, with his cloud formed cloak and sword almost as long as himself, smacks somewhat of the Spanish occupation. The sign subscribed LE CHEVALIER. VERT., is in date probably of that awful period in the history of the Netherlands, whose annals are inscribed in letters of blood.

Dec. 4. T HARWOOD PATTISON.

ROYAL LICENCE FOR IMPRESSMENT OF SURGEONS.

The following inedited document of authority affords good evidence of the low condition of the surgical practice in the metropolis on the accession of Queen Elizabeth, and cannot be perused without exciting considerable interest.

Holbein, on whose skill as a painter, Du Fresnoy thus expatiates—his execution surpassed even that of Raffaelle, and I have seen a portrait of his painting, with which one of Titian's could not come in competition; has in his glorious picture of king Henry the Eighth granting the Charter to the Barber Surgeons' Company, eternised the portrait of Thomas Vicary, the Queen's Serjeant Surgeon; it is to him, the burly monarch and father of Her Majesty is delivering the charter as the chief of the company.

The Great seal has been torn from the original licence, but there are remains to prove that it was formerly attached

Lee Road, Blackheath. J. J. H.

ELIZABETH, by the grace of God, Quene of Englond, Fraunce, and Irelonde, Defender of the faith, etc.

To All Mayours, Sheriffs, Baylliffs, Constables, and all other our Offycers, Mynisters and Subiects thees our Lettres hearinge or seinge, and to euery of them greetinge.

We lett you wete, that for certeyn consideracions us mouinge we haue by theise presents auctorised and lycensed oure Trustie and Welbeloned Seruaunte THOMAS VYCARY, Sergeant of our Surgions and the Wardens of the Fellowshipp of the said Surgeons within our Cytie of London that now be or hereafter shalbe, that they by themselfs, or their assigne, bearer hereof, shal and may from hensforth, take and reteyne at our wages as well within the Cytie of London, as elsewhere within any other Cytie, Towne, Boroughe or other place within this our Realme, as well franchised and privileged as not franchised nor privileged, suche and as many Surgions as they shall thinke mete and able from tyme to tyme to doe unto us seruyce in the seyence of Surgerie at any season hereafter as well by sea as lande, and further that the Sergeant and Wardeyns aforesaide shal or maye take of suche as be not able to serve, suche instruments and other stuff of Surgerie as they shal thinke mete to same, agreinge and payinge therfor, to all suche of whom any suche instruments or stuff shal be taken.

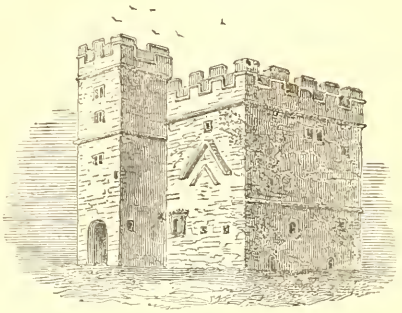
Wherfore We woll and comaunde you, and eüy of you that unto our saide Sergiant and the Wardeyns aforesaid, and their assigne, bearer hereof, in the due execucion of this our auctoritie and lycense, Ye be aydinge, helpinge and assistinge as ofte as the case shal require without any your denyall, lett, or contradycion, as ye and eüy of you tender our pleasure and woll auoide the contrary at your peril.

In Witness whereof, We have caused theis our Lettres of Commissyon to be sealed with our Greate Seale.

Wytness ourself at Westmynstre, the [*torn by fold*] th day of December [1559] the seconde yere of our Reigne.

PENGERSICK CASTLE, WEST CORNWALL.

The traveller as he passes along the Helston-road, in the parish of Breage, may descry at about half a mile distance, in a picturesque valley which slopes to the sea, the ruins of Pengersick Castle. A visit thither would amply repay the artist or the antiquary, and as no view of it has hitherto been engraved, I respectfully submit to the readers of Current Notes, the accompanying illustration.



The local historians state that the barton and manor of Pengersick,* was in the reign of Henry the Eighth, purchased in his son's name by—Milliton, a gentleman, who having by accident or otherwise committed murder, immured himself in a private chamber in the tower of the castle, and was so effectually concealed from any judicial inquiry, that except to a few friends, nothing was known respecting him, until upon his death, his retreat was discovered.

Whether this castellated mansion, the family seat of the Millitons was built by them, or previously, is not recorded. In 1547, Job Milliton, the son above noticed, was appointed governor of St. Michael's Mount, in place of Humphrey Arundell, who was executed for rebellion. William Milliton, his only son, who had the honour of being Sheriff of Cornwall, died without issue, in 1595, when the family estate was divided among his six sisters, who became his heiresses.

Sir Nicholas Hals, Knight, on his first coming into Cornwall, from Efford, in Devonshire, purchased a portion of the lands, and occasionally resided at Pengersick and Trewinard, till he removed to Fintongollen. John Hals the thriftless son and heir to Sir Nicholas, by his imprudence, caused all the growing timber at Pengersick, of which according to tradition, 'there was great store,' to be cut down and sold. Some portion of the lands passed to the Duke of Leeds, as the representative of the Godolphin family.

The tower of the castle consists of three stories, a passage of winding steps leads to the roof, from which there is a pleasing though not extensive prospect.

On the ground floor, the walls are pierced with loop-

* Pen-gar-wick, also Pen-gars-wick otherwise Pengweras-ike. See Gilbert's Cornwall.

holes, and many of the apartments have fallen in. Those which remain are used by a farmer as haylofts and granaries. On the wainscot of the upper story, elaborately carved and painted, are some quaint verses, now nearly effaced. The following are specimens :

The one nedith the other ys helpe
The laime wyche lacketh for to goo,
Is borne upon the blynde is back,
So mutually between them twoo :
The one supplieth the other's lack ;
The blynde to laime doth lend his might,
The laime to blynde doth yeld his sight.

These lines have reference to a painting of a blind-man, bearing one who is lame on his back.

PERSEVERANCE.

What thing is harder than a rock?
What softer is than water clear?
But will the same with often drop
The hard rock pierce as doth appear,
Even so nothing so hard to attayne,
But may be had with labour and payne.

The arms of the Milliton family were from a supposed punning allusion to their name, a chevron, between three millot fishes hariant or erected, whereas Milliton is a mill-town.

Penzance, Dec. 2.

ETHELFLEDA, THE 'LADY' OF MERCIA.

England, notwithstanding the supposed ignorance of geographical knowledge manifested by most nations in the earlier annals of the world, appears to have been 'the golden land,' to which the most ruthless migratory inroads by hordes of barbarian northmen were ostensibly directed and though attacked successively by armed hosts sufficiently caparisoned and inured to military evolutions, that on any other soil, would have served to annihilate the very character and name of its aborigines, still their innate bravery, and the irresistible pluck of the natives, has ever served to sustain their indomitable genius, which like hope was and is ever directed to the future, constantly undaunted in the conflict, and unconquered in death.

At the period of Alfred's accession, the Danes by their brutal ferocity, had caused great devastation, and the Angles partially depressed by the innumerable hosts of their assailants, experienced extreme misery and privation. Mercia, wholly in the power of the Danes, was most mercilessly ravaged, the greater part of the nobility—had either fallen in battle, or had been driven from their homes, and few but the peasantry or churls remained, to undergo oppression and plunder by Ceolwulf, a Thane, who was advanced by the Danes to be for a time, *their* king or governor of Mercia.* The desperation these events caused, excited the energies of many persons whose characters stand forth magnificently illustrious in English History, but to none can Englishmen point with greater pride than to Ethelfleda, the youngest daughter of Alfred ; the sister of Edward, surnamed the elder, who 'every inch a king,' majestically supported the functions of the monarch ; and the wife of Ethelred, then Ealdorman of Mercia, which, by its absorption with other states, had then ceased to be a kingdom. In her person, emphatically styled 'the Lady' of Mercia, Ethelfleda appears to have characteristically embodied the soul-moving Heroine of Romance, to have been embued with the sturdy valour of Ariosto's Bradamante; and to have shewn on all occasions, the prowess of 'the bold Virago' as she was termed by all the monkish writers; nor was her decision or prudence inferior to her bravery.

Chester, that had been strongly fortified by the Romans, and after the Roman period, successively occupied by the Britons and the Anglo-Saxons, was during the invasions of this period, abandoned by the latter; but the Danes in 894, occupied it as a place of succour against the advances of Alfred ; they in their turn, were driven thence; and in 908, Ethelred having possession restored much of the ruined buildings, and walled it about, enclosing the castle which till then had been beyond its limits.

In 912, Ethelred died, and the rule in Mercia devolved upon his widow Ethelfleda, who, having been taught by experience that much of the Danish success in their depredations was in great part owing to their defensive fortifications, and that amidst all their apparent irregularity, they effectually carried on war by system; adopted the same course of strategy; and every place or point that could be rendered defensible, she promptly secured. Worcester, her capital, had been fortified by Ethelred. Hovenden, and other chroniclers mention her proceeding with a large force, on May 6, 913, to Sceargate, or Shiregate, and there built a strong castle; and another on the west bank of the Severn, called Bridge, otherwise Bridgenorth, in Shropshire. In the spring of 914, she went to Tamworth, restored the town, and built the castle; thence, according to Matthew of Westminster, and Florence of Worcester, she proceeded to Stafford, and repaired that castle. In 915, as Hovenden records, she built Edesbury or Eddesbury, and fortified Warwick ; and in 916, as Florence of Worcester relates, she built Cherbury, which he designates Cyriebyrig; Runcorn and other places were also successfully protected by the ramparts which she raised. Each year of her sovereignty was characterised by bold and well-directed measures. In 917, occurred the memorable assault on Brecanmere, or Brecknock, designated by the Welsh—Gweyth y Dinas Newydh, i.e. the battle of the new city. Johannes Castoreus thus narrates the particulars.

Huganus, Lord of West Wales, perceiving king Edward to be occupied far enough from him, in the Danish war; gathered an army of Britons, and entered the

* Ceolwulf, is said to have been the minister of Burgred, who when the latter was driven from his throne by the Danes, seized on the government, for a short time, till his own expulsion in 874 terminated the independence. The coins struck by Ceolwulf are the last of that Saxon kingdom.

king's territories. Ethelfleda, king Edward's sister, upon hearing this, advanced with a strong army to Wales, and fought the rebellious Welshmen at Brecknock, where having put Huganus and his followers to flight, she took as captives the wife of Huganus, with thirty-four of his men, and led them with her into Mercia. Huganus thus discomfited, fled to Derby, where being of the people peaceably received, he in 918 with fifteen men at arms, and two hundred well appointed soldiers, joined king Edward's adversaries, the Danes. The men of Derby having certified this to the dauntless Ethelfleda, she followed him with a powerful force, to the gates of that town, and four of her chief officers were there slain; but her steward, Gwyane, Lord of the Isle of Ely; having set fire to, and burned the gates, the Britons being vigorously assaulted, Huganus overmatched, and choosing to die by the sword, rather than yield himself unto a woman, was there slain.

By the capture of Derby, and of Leicester in 919, were achieved great advantages, and having forced the Danes to a capitulation, Ethelfleda thus regained important portions of the old Mercian territory, and the submission of the Danish hosts stationed in and near these towns comprised her authority.

Ethelfleda died at Tamworth, in 919, soon after these successful assaults, and was buried by the side of her husband, in St. Peter's porch, in the cathedral of Gloucester, having ensculptered on her tomb, the following lines :—

O Elfleda potens, ô terror virgo virorum,
O Elfleda potens, nomine digna viri.
Te quoque splendidior fecit natura puellam,
Te probitas fecit nomen habère viri.
Te mutare decet sed solum nomina sexus,
Tu regina potens rexque trophea parans.
Iam nec Casareos tantùm mirere triumphos,
Cæsare splendidior virgo, virago vale!

When the old foundations of St. Peter's church were being excavated for the building of the present edifice, the bodies of Ethelred and Ethelfleda were found together and entire.

A woodcut nearly three centuries old, proffers an imaginary portrait of this celebrated Lady. Her face to the right, a richly flowing mantle on the shoulders. Her necklace and bracelets are studded with pearls or jewels, and on her head is placed a radiant diadem or coronet. In her right hand, is a sceptre; and in her left, are flowers—that beautiful emblem, the Forget me Not, serving as a memento for remembrance to future ages—thus bloom for ever the actions of the Just.

Virago Vale! Brave Lady, Farewell!

E. P. S.

JEWELS DISCOVERED IN THE EXCHEQUER OFFICE.

A quantity of jewels was discovered there in 1841, and was at the time the subject of much conversation. The treasure thus recovered, was said to be of considerable value, and according to appearances had been hidden 150 years or more. The surmise was, the jewels had been pledged in the reign of Charles II. or James II princes of no remarkable regularity in their financial operations.

What became of these jewels, and what was their value?

J. A. P.

SURNAMES ENDING IN WELL.

Whence the origin and signification of the termination 'well,' to names of Places and Families, such as Bidwell, Boswell, Carswell, Creswell, Faxwell, Harewell, Leapingwell, Maxwell, Tanswell, Tregonwell, Tugwell, etc.? I have thought it a corruption of the Norman 'ville,' but shall be glad to receive some definite information on the subject from any of your correspondents.

Inner Temple, Dec. 1. T. P. Langmead.

Hereditary surnames are said to have been adopted in the kingdoms of the Saxon Heptarchy prior to the Norman Conquest. The termination 'ville' equivalent to our 'ton' is frequent among the Norman names, and in the Battel Abbey roll. Noble held such terminations as conclusive evidence, the persons so named were Normans. The termination ville, has in frequent instances been changed or perverted into well, as Bosseville to Boswell, Fretchville to Freshwell and Fretwell, Rosseville to Roswell. Hareville, a name found in Leland's copy of the Battel Abbey roll, appears in Holinshed's more modern version as Harewell.

Verstegan in 1605, descanting on English Surnames, observes on those terminating in well, our Ancestors according to the different issue of waters, did term them differently, and among others, that which rose bubbling out of the earth, they called well-water, as if they had said, bubbling water; but this name of well grew afterward among us to be the name of the bourne-pit where out the water is drawn. In Brabant, a well is called a bourne-pit. Sundry persons coming to possess places which were near unto wells of especial note, having gotten thereby the name of such and such a well, became after them to be so called, as Staniwell, of his dwelling at a well, so named of the stoniness thereof; and Moswell, of a well where much moss did grow.

Camden, in his Notes on English Surnames, merely notices well, as a termination attached to some names: and that ville had been corruptly turned as champ into feld or field, as Baskerville into Baskerfeld or Baskerfield, and Somerville into Somerfield.

From Boswell is derived Bothwell; Verstegan in 1605, quoting the relation of some traveller in Palestine, relates a romantic fact, that passing through a town near Jerusalem, the relater heard a woman seated at a door nursing her child, singing as a lullaby,

Bothwel bank thou bloomest fayre;

surprised at the sound, he accosted her, when she, equally delighted as himself, told him she was a Scotswoman, who had passed first from Scotland to Venice, and from Venice thither, her husband being then an officer under the Turk. Robert Chambers, in his Collection of Scottish Songs, Edinb. 1829, vol. i. p. 239, has there printed John Pinkerton's song, entitled Bothwell Bank, to the Tune of Bothwell bank thou bloomest fair; it appears to have had its origin in the line quoted as that of the tune to which it was purposed to be sung; but where are to be found the words of the original Bothwell bank?

TWO VERSUS ONE.

Mr. Commissioner Goulburn, in a recent case of bankruptcy,* made a happy application of Jekyll's Epigram respecting two Doctors, to the absurdity of employing two Attornies for the purpose of saving, as was alleged, expense. I have put together a Latin version of this quatrain, which if you think proper to insert it in Current Notes, is at your service.

Lincolnshire, Nov. 28. T. W. B.

One Doctor single, like the sculler plies,
The Patient struggles, and by inches dies:
But two Physicians, like a pair of oars,
Waft him right smoothly to the Stygian shores.

Unicus ægrotum dum tractat, remigis instar,
Paulatim Medicus disperiisse videt,
Navigio celeri Stygias defertur ad undas
Cui duo dant Medici, dira viremis, opem.

T. W. B.

* In re Kirkman Lane, Solicitor, see The Times, Nov. 25, p. 11, col. 3. The whole proceedings there reported, gave occasion to the epigram having the most crowning effect.

RICE FAMILY, NORFOLK.

In the chancel of the parish church of Edingthorpe, Norfolk, on a black marble slab, is the following inscription :—

Memoriæ Sacrum
ERASMI RICE nec non dilecti fratris OLIVERI,
quod ab Avo qui et ipse Rebellem in odio habuerit,
Sortitus est Nomen.

In ERASMUM.

Pangere te juvenem mortales morte beatos
Mirati fratres id didicere tuâ.

In OLIVERUM archytam alterum.

Couldst (for this Land,) Thou hand to hand,
But rebel Noll have fought ;
Dear had been then, to Englishmen,
That name now come to nought.

Ob. ERASMUS Jan. 19, 1715,
Ob. OLIVERUS . . . . .
(Mediterraneis sepultus sub undis) Anno Nati Christi 1721.

The burial register, has the entry, Mr. Erasmus Rice of Happisburgh,* was buried here, Jan. 23, 1715-16.

THEO. RICE, Rector.

Can any of your correspondents inform me to what family of the Rices, these parties belonged ?

Coleford, Dec. 2. J. LAWSON SISSON.

* Happisburgh or Hapsburgh, a vicarage in Happing Hundred, see Blomefield's Norfolk, continued by Parkin, Vol. V., Lynn, 1775, pp. 853-854.

Blomefield, Vol. I. p. 584, notices Henry Ryce, rector of Merton, from May 6, 1580, till 1590, when he was deprived. Again, in the same volume, p. 574, Henry Rice, is noticed as rector of Ovington, 1601-3.

Theophilus Rice appears to have held the rectory of Edingthorpe, on presentation by Queen Anne, from 1710 till 1748.

WILLFORD'S MICRO-CHRONICON, 1651.

Lately I picked up at an old book stall, a duodecimo Manuscript volume of the 17th century, pp. 240, neatly and well written, and entitled—A genuine Description and Vse of the Perpetual Kalendar. Secondly, a Temporary Table for Twenty-two Years to come. Thirdly, an Appendix fore shewing the effects of Eclipses and Prognostications of the Weather by the Planets; the litigious Termes and Returnes; a Table of the Norman Kings; the Marts and Faires in England and Wales; with a Micro-Chronicon of Memorable Things, all rendered facile by THOMAS WILLFORD, Philomathesis.

After the title-page, which is too long to insert in full, follows an address—'To the Ingeniously Wise and Beneuolent Reader,' in which Willford refers to his 'Bookes of Astronomie,' and his 'Meteorrologicall Prognostications." A Micro-Chronicon, or Abstract of Historicall Computations collected chiefly from our English Annalls, declaring many Memorable Accidents, Remarkable Events, and Things of Note, since Cæsar invaded Britaine, continued unto the yeare of Grace, 1650, commences at p. 135. This is by far the most interesting portion of the book, and especially that part of the Chronicle which treats of events during the reigns of James and Charles the First; many of the notices under these periods appearing to be original.

Under 1612, is the following reference to the then current suspicions of poisoning—Vpon the 6th day of Nouember, Prince Henry died, hauing liu'd so long as he could, but yett, generally thought not so long as he might haue done.

From various passages it is apparent Willford was a Papist and a Royalist. The Gunpowder Treason he describes as 'that senceless and inhuman conspiracie,' which 'cast an aspersion vpon the Catholikes in generall, and raised a persecution.' He continues, "God direct all Christians from such horrid designes and preserue the worst of men from sudden and miserable ends, and all my enemies (if I haue any) from violent deaths!"

Notices of earthquakes and tempests abound; and also of 'Omens and Portents dire:' *e.g.*—In Februarie, 1644, there appeared in the north part of the Horizon, a fiery impression, like a stand of Pikes, these after half an houres space vanish'd, and then as many more did rise in the West. Vpon the second of March, the Scots came ouer the River Tyne, at which time there appeared a Meteor ouer the Citty of Yorke, representing the forme of a St. Andrew's crosse. Vpon the second daye of July was the battle of Marston-Moore neere Yorke, etc.

The 'Regall Table' terminates with this observation—January 30, 1649, was the period to our Monarchs, and the originall of our State, so now I must not here insert Charles the Second, by the Grace of God, King of England, Scotland, France and Ireland, etc.

The Micro-Chronicon is continued through most part

of 1651. Seuerall apparitions in the aire there were this spring, in some part of Staffordshire; and in Shropshire two armies in the clouds were seen in battalio, and seemed to encounter one another. Vpon the 15 daye of May, there was another Earthquake felt in Leicestershire. The last entry is on Nov. 18, 1651, and at the end, is an ornamental piece of scroll work, bearing the motto—FINIS CORONAT OPUS, and the initials T. W.

I cannot find the name of the writer mentioned in any work of reference, to which I have access here, and shall feel grateful for any particulars respecting this Thomas Willford, and for information whether the manuscript in my possession has ever been printed?

Leicester, Dec. 10. WILLIAM KELLY.

LEGEND OF THE FORGET ME NOT.

In Current Notes for April, page 40, is an inquiry respecting the Legend of the Forget me not, and though the enclosed, copied from a periodical published many years since, is a different version from that noticed in the inquiry, it is sent on the chance that it may be deemed interesting to many of your readers, the work in which it was first printed, being now difficult of obtainment. E. A. BENTHAM.

LA FLEUR DE SOUVENANCE.

Farewell! my true and loyal Knight! On yonder battle field,
Many a pearl and gem of price will gleam on helm and shield:
But bear thou on thy silver crest this pure and simple wreath,
A token of thy Ladye's love—unchanging to the death.

They seem, I know, these fragrant flow'rs, those fairy stars of blue,
As maiden's eyes had smiled on them, and giv'n them that bright hue;
As only fitting but to bind a Lady's hair or lute,
And not with war, or warrior's crest in armed field to suit.

But there's a charm in ev'ry leaf, a deep and mystic spell;
Then take the wreath, my loyal Knight, Our Lady shield thee well;
And, though still prouder favors deck the gallant knights of France,
Oh, be the first in ev'ry field, LA FLEUR DE SOUVENANCE!

How bland, how still, this summer eve, sure never gentler hour.
For lay of love. or sigh of lute, to breathe in lady's bow'r;
Then listen, with a Lover's faith, all thoughts of war forgot,
To the legend of my token flow'r, the charm'd FORGET ME NOT.

Young Albert led his Ida forth, when the departing sun
Still linger'd in the golden West, and shone like treasures won
From some far land of old romance; some Genie's diamond throne,
A wreck of bright enchanted gems, in triumph overthrown.

Love, look to those radiant clouds, so like to fairy bow'rs:
How proudly o'er a sea of gold are raised their ruby tow'rs;
And now, as if by magic spell, a bright pavilion seems,
With its folds of sapphire light, where the parting sunray gleams.

To that bright Heaven with smiles she look'd; one gleam of her blue eyes,
And Albert's heart forgot the clouds, and all their radiant dyes,
All, all, but that young smiling one, whose beauty well might seem
A fairy form of loveliness imagined in a dream.

She took a chaplet from her brow, which gleaming soft and fair,
Like orient veil of amber light stream'd down her silken hair,
Shedding fragrance and emitting brightness from its glitt'ring rings.
As if halo'd by Love's breath, and the glancing of his wings.

"These maiden roses, Love, appear like pearls kissed by the sun
With last rich gleam of crimson ere his western throne be won;
But should there not be some bright flow'r to deck our bridal wreath,
Whose hue might speak of constancy, unchanging to the death?"

"My Ida! from a thousand wreaths, thy own sweet fancy chose
For pure unfading loveliness, this garland of the Rose:
And what can speak of truer faith, my own beloved one,
Than the flow'r whose fragrance lasts even when its life is gone?"

"Look to yon lone enchanted isle which 'mid the silv'ry foam
Of the blue water seems to float, the wild swan's elfin home;
A very cloud of azure flow'rs in rich profusion bloom;
Winds of the lake! your passing sighs breathe of their rich perfume.

In nameless beauty all unmasked, in solitude they smile,
As if they bloomed but for the stars, or birds of that lone isle:
For never yet hath mortal foot touch'd that enchanted shore,
Long hallowed by wildly imagined tales of gore.

Full well I love those distant flow'rs, whose pure and tender blue
Seem fitting emblems of a faith, unchanging as their hue;
And wouldst thou venture for my love as thou wouldst for renown,
Then win for me those azure flow'rs, to deck my bridal crown."

One parting kiss of his fair bride, and swiftly far away,
Like the wild swan whose home he sought, young Albert met the spray
Of rising waves, which foamed in wrath, as if some spirit's hand
Awoke the genii of the lake, to guard their mystic land.

The flow'rs were won, but devious his course lay back again;
To stem the waters in their tow'ring rage he strove in vain:
Fondly he glanced to the yet distant shore, where in despair
His betrothed stood with extended arms, mid shrieks and pray'r.

Darker and darker gather'd on the tempest in its wrath,
Th' eddying waters with vengeful ire beset the fatal path.
With the wild energy of death he well nigh reach'd the spot,
The azure flowers fell at her feet—IDA, FORGET ME NOT!
The words yet borne upon his lips, the prize seem'd almost won—
When mid the rush of angry waves he sank—for ever gone!

* * * *

Within a proud cathedral aisle was raised a costly tomb,
Whose pure marble shone like ethereal light amid the gloom;
No other trace it bore, to speak of lineage or of lot
But IDA'S name, with star-like flow'r ensculp'd FORGET ME NOT.

There Ida slept, the desolate, the last of all her name;
Parted from him who perished for her love, mid dawn of fame;
But when shall their fond legend die? or when shall be forgot
The flow'r that won its name in death, Love's theme—FORGET ME NOT?

ERASURES IN MANUSCRIPTS.

In several early manuscripts, I have noticed particular words have had a line drawn through them; sometimes a black line with a second or red line, as if erased, but which words constantly are a portion of the phraseology or sense of the narration or fact stated by the writer. For what purpose was this done?

Canterbury, Dec. 5, JUVENIS.

The words so lined through are not erasures, though that is the modern mode of erasing words or phrases which are objectionable. The earlier scribes by these lines implied that a particular emphasis should rest on these words, and that the reader should observe their import in particular, as we now underline them in writing, or print them in an italic type.

TRANSLATIONS OF BISHOPS.—When did the practice commence? or is there any record of the first person who was thus preferred or translated to a see, other than the one to which he was first appointed?

Carlisle, Dec. 8. F. M.

In Atkins' History of Gloucester, it is said, Gilbert Foliot, Abbot of that Monastery in 1139, was consecrated bishop of Hereford, Sept. 5, 1148, and translated to the see of London, in 1163, being the first instance of the translation of a bishop in England. The assertion is very erroneous, as prior to that date. Gerard, bishop of Hereford, circa 1095, was translated to York, in 1100. Still earlier. Herman, bishop of Winton, in 1046, was translated as bishop of Shireburn, in 1050. He removed the latter see to Salisbury, and was deceased in 1078, or before. There may possibly have been even earlier translations among the Anglo-Saxon bishops.

ST. BERNARD'S SAUCE.—Reading recently of some viands served up with St. Bernard's sauce, the meaning appeared to me to be obscure. I have looked into Halliwell's Dictionary and other authorities, but fail to find any solution of this delicacy, if such it be. Can any reader of Current Notes render any elucidation of this phrase?

Liverpool, Dec. 4. S. T.

St. Bernard's sauce is an ironical term for hunger.

PICTORIAL NIMBUS, OR GLORY.

I am sorry to observe that Mrs. Jameson's beautiful work, the 'Legends of the Madonna,' does not as stated in a note appended to my inquiry in your October number, furnish any exact information on the subject referred to. Whether Didron's Christian Iconography is more to the purpose I am not able to judge, as the work is not in my possession. In Mrs. Jameson's volume some of the few examples from Dutch artists represent the Nimbus in the form of rays proceeding from the head of the Virgin and the Child; and I have an old picture on which are the painter's initials I. A. V.; where both of these figures are represented with this head of glory—the latter with the rays very marked and very striking. The head of the Virgin has a thin circle of light, and a small point or two of condensed rays issuing beneath from the back part of the corner of the head. The subject is the Adoration of the Shepherds, one of whom presents a lamb. The infant Child is lying on a white cloth, and the Virgin Mother in a kneeling posture, is looking upon him, with her hands closed in the attitude of prayer. The artist, I think, must have been Flemish or Dutch, and probably the Nimbus referred to, may be characteristic of the painter. Query whom?

Your correspondent F. R. N. H. in his interesting communication seems to corroborate my views, that the rayed or flame like Nimbus is a characteristic of Dutch Art.

Dec. 15. E. B.

Our correspondent E. B. has only to refer to Didron, a volume which the publishers of Current Notes could readily supply; to correct his erroneous supposition that the luminous fluid or flame-like Nimbus was a characteristic of the Dutch School. It is found in Hindoo representations executed in far distant ages, and Didron adverts to the adoption of certain anachronisms and erroneous applications by artists of more recent times, while his historical inquiries are supported by unquestionable objects of Archæology. The subject of the glory or Nimbus occupies in Didron, pp. 129-200; and his Christian Iconography is one of those works of authentic information that should find shelf room in every library in the world, either public or private.

M. Christ in 1759, noticed the Monogram I. A. V., but most erroneously ascribes it to Josse Ammon of Zurich. Brulliot, whose Dictionnaire des Monogrammes professes to embody all previously published articles in that subject, refers, Vol. II. p. 169, to Christ, simply to record the misappropriation by that writer. The monogram, however, remains unapplied.